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ABSTRACT

This report presents data on a wide range of geographic, demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics for the foreign-born population of the United States. Data for the native population are included for comparison. Data come from the March 2000 Current Population Survey. The core of the report is 22 sections presenting information on the following topics: trends in immigration and the foreign-born population; region of birth; country of birth; geographic distribution; metropolitan areas; length of residence; citizenship status; nativity, parentage, and foreign stock; Hispanic origin and race; age and sex; household size and type; families and related children; children living with foreign-born householders; educational attainment; labor force participation; occupation; earnings of full-time, year-round workers; money income of households; poverty status; means-tested program participation; health insurance; and homeownership Five appendices include: foreign-born and other terms, source and accuracy of estimates, comparison of population universes, nativity questions on the Current Population Survey, and related reports and information. (Contains 22 figures and 28 references.) (SM)

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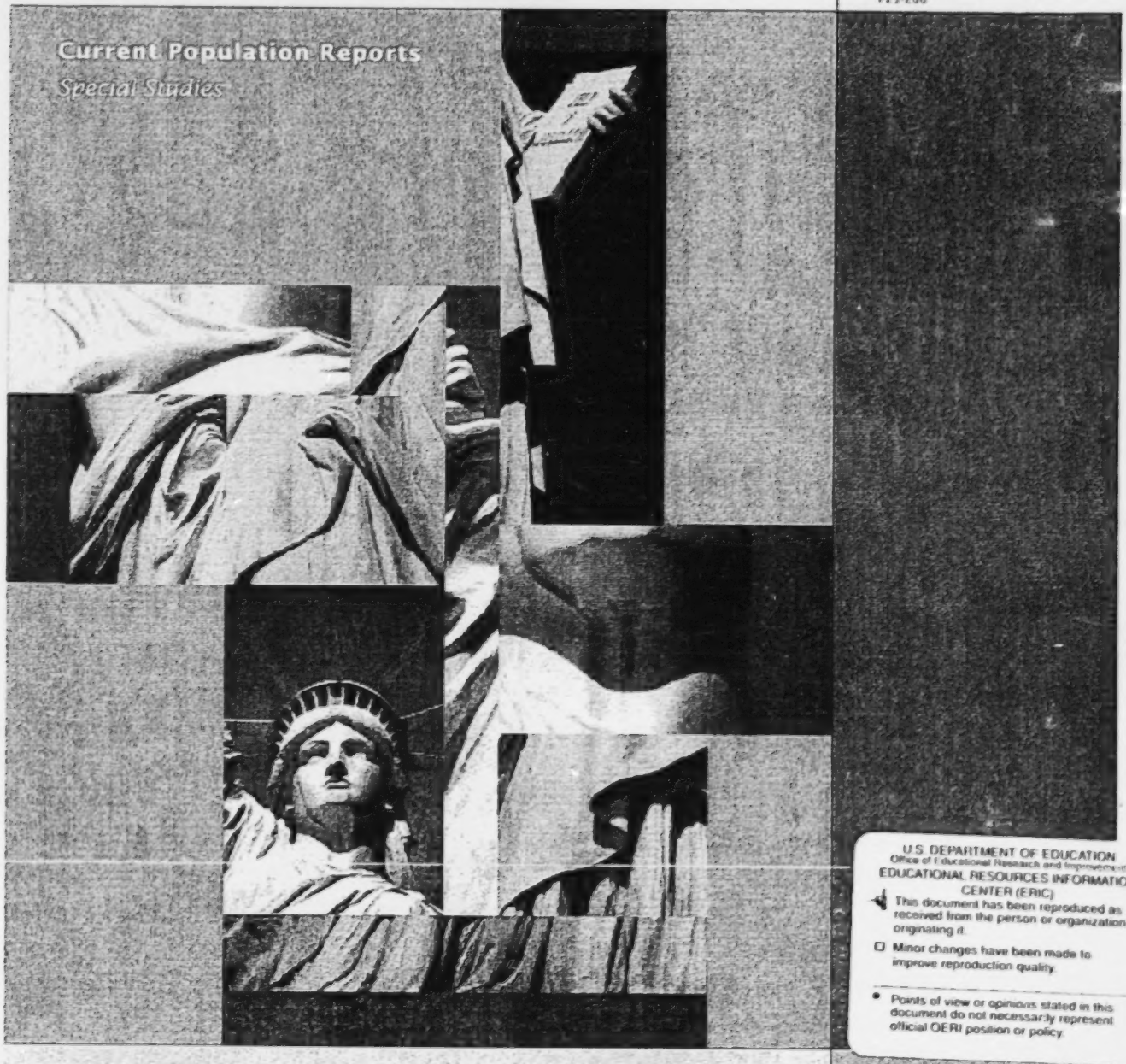

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Contents

Notes About This Report 1
Highlights 2

Sections

1. Trends in Immigration and the Foreign-Born Population 8
2. Region of Birth 10
3. Country of Birth 12
4. Geographic Distribution 14
5. Metropolitan Areas 16
6. Length of Residence 18
7. Citizenship Status 20
8. Nativity, Parentage, and Foreign Stock 22
9. Hispanic Origin and Race 24
10. Age and Sex 26
11. Household Size and Type 30
12. Families and Related Children 32
13. Children Living With Foreign-Born Householders 34
14. Educational Attainment 36
15. Labor Force Participation 38
16. Occupation 40
17. Earnings of Full-Time, Year-Round Workers 42
18. Money Income of Households 44
19. Poverty Status 46
20. Means-Tested Program Participation 48
21. Health Insurance 50
22. Homeownership 52

References 54

Figures

1-1. Foreign-Born Population and Percent of Total Population for the United States: 1850 to 2000 9
1-2. Immigrants to the United States by Decade: Fiscal Years, 1821 to 1998 9
2-1. Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: 1960 to 2000 11
2-2. Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: Selected Years, 1850 to 2000 11
3-1. Countries of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population With 500,000 or More in 2000: 1990 and 2000 12
4-1. States With a Foreign-Born Population of 1 Million or More in 2000: 1990 and 2000 15
4-2. Foreign-Born Population for States: 2000 15
5-1. Metropolitan Areas With a Foreign-Born Population of 1 Million or More in 2000: 1990 and 2000 16
5-2. Population by Nativity and Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Residence: 2000 17
6-1. Length of Residence[1] in the United States for the Foreign-Born Population: 1970 to 2000 18
6-2. Length of Residence in the United States for the Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: 2000 19

7-1. Foreign-Born Population by Citizenship Status: 1970 to 2000 20
7-2. Naturalized Citizens by Length of Residence in the United States: 1970 to 2000 21
7-3. Naturalized Citizens by Region of Birth: 2000 21
8-1. Foreign-Stock Population by Nativity and Parentage: Selected Years, 1890 to 2000 23
9-1. Nativity and Parentage for Selected Race and Hispanic-Origin Groups: 2000 25
9-2. Length of Residence in the United States and Citizenship Status for Selected Race and Hispanic-Origin Groups of the Foreign-Born Population: 2000 25
10-1. Age and Sex of the Population by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 2000 27
10-2. Age and Sex of the Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: 2000 27
10-3. Age and Sex of the Foreign-Born Population: 1960 to 2000 27
10-4. Total Population by Age and Sex: 1970 and 2000 28
10-5. Foreign-Stock[1] Population by Age and Sex: 1970 and 2000 29
11-1. Households by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status of the Householder: 2000 30
11-2. Foreign-Born Households by Region of Birth of the Householder: 2000 31
12-1. Families by Type, Nativity of Householder, and Number of Related Children: 2000 32
12-2. Married-Couple Families by Nativity of Spouses and Nativity and Age of Related Household Members: 2000 33
13-1. Children Under Age 18 in Family Households by Relationship to Householder, Nativity, and Nativity of Householder: 2000 34
14-1. Educational Attainment of the Population Age 25 and Older by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 2000 36
14-2. Educational Attainment of the Foreign-Born Population Age 25 and Older by Region of Birth: 2000 37
15-1. Labor Force Participation Rates of the Population Age 16 and Older by Nativity and Sex for Selected Age Groups: 2000 39
15-2. Labor Force Participation Rates of the Population 25 to 54 Years Old by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, Citizenship Status, and Sex: 2000 39
15-3. Labor Force Participation Rates of the Foreign-Born Population 25 to 54 Years Old by Region of Birth and Sex: 2000 39
16-1. Major Occupation Group of Workers Age 16 and Older by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 2000 41
16-2. Major Occupation Group of Foreign-Born Workers Age 16 and Older by Region of Birth: 2000 41
17-1. Earnings of Full-Time, Year-Round Workers by Sex, Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 1999 43
17-2. Median Earnings of Foreign-Born Full-Time, Year-Round Workers by Sex and Region of Birth: 1999 43
18-1. Median Household Income by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status of the Householder: 1999 45
18-2. Income of Foreign-Born Households by Region of Birth of the Householder: 1999 45
18-3. Median Household Income by Nativity of Householder and Type of Household: 1999 45
19-1. Poverty Rates for the Population by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 1999 47
19-2. Poverty Rates for the Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: 1999 47

19-3. Selected Poverty Rates for the Population by Nativity, for Families by Nativity of the Householder, and for Related Children Under Age 18 by Nativity: 1999 47
20-1. Households Receiving Selected Means-Tested Noncash or Cash Benefits by Specified Benefit and Nativity of the Householder: 1999 49
20-2. Households Receiving Selected Means-Tested Noncash or Cash Benefits by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status of the Householder: 1999 49
20-3. Foreign-Born Households Receiving Selected Means-Tested Noncash or Cash Benefits by Region of Birth of the Householder: 1999 49
21-1. Health Insurance Coverage of the Population by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 1999 51
21-2. Health Insurance Coverage of the Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: 1999 51
21-3. Employment-Based Health Insurance for Workers by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 1999 51
21-4. Employment-Based Health Insurance for Foreign-Born Workers by Region of Birth: 1999 51
22-1. Homeownership Rates and Median Age of Householder by Nativity, Citizenship Status, and Length of Residence in the United States: 2000 53
22-2. Homeownership Rates by Nativity of Householder and Type of Household: 2000 53
22-3. Homeownership Rates and Median Age of Householder for Foreign-Born Householders by Region of Birth: 2000 53

Text Tables

3-1. Leading Countries of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population: Selected Years, 1850 to 1990 13
4-1. Foreign-Born Population by Region of Residence and for Leading States: Selected Years, 1900 to 2000 14
5-1. Foreign-Born Population in Metropolitan Areas With 5 Million or More People: 2000 17
8-1. Population by Nativity and Parentage: 2000 22
9-1. Population by Nativity, Parentage, and Selected Race and Hispanic-Origin Groups: 2000 24
13-1. Native and Foreign-Born Children Under Age 18 Living in Households and Families by Nativity of Householder: 2000 35
22-1. Homeownership Rates by Nativity, Region of Birth, and Age of Householder: 2000 52

Appendixes

A. Foreign Born and Other Terms: Definitions and Concepts 56
B. Source and Accuracy of Estimates 58
C. Comparison of Population Universes 67
D. Nativity Questions on the Current Population Survey 68
E. Related Reports and Information 69

Notes About This Report

Profile of the Foreign-Born Population in the United States: 2000, Current Population Reports, P23-206, presents data on a wide range of geographic, demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics for the foreign-born population of the United States. Data for the native population are included for comparison. The data in this report for 2000 are from the March 2000 Current Population Survey (CPS) and do not include information from Census 2000 or the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey. Data for 1990 and earlier years, which are included for historical comparison, are from the decennial censuses of population. Detailed tables showing data for 2000 are presented in *Profile of the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 2000*, PPL-145, issued in 2001. Detailed tables showing data on the foreign-born population from decennial censuses are presented in *Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 1990*, Population Division Working Paper, No. 29, issued in 1999.

The reference date for data from the 1990 census is April 1. For data from the CPS, the reference dates vary depending on when the housing unit first came into the survey and on the topic. Housing units (and their occupants) in the CPS are in for 4 months, out for 8 months, and then in again for 4 months. Thus housing units in the March 2000 CPS are about equally distributed among those that first came into the survey from December 1998 to March 1999 and from December 1999 to March 2000. While data on some characteristics, including age, are updated, data on other characteristics, including length of residence in the United States and citizenship status of the foreign-born population, are not.

The core of this report is 22 sections presenting information on various topics for the foreign-born population. These sections are preceded by Highlights and are followed by References and five appendixes: (A) Foreign Born and Other Terms: Definitions and Concepts, (B) Source and Accuracy of Estimates, (C) Comparison of Population Universes, (D) Nativity Questions on the Current Population Survey, and (E) Related Reports and Information.

Numbers or percentages in the text, figures, and text tables may not sum to totals due to rounding. In general, percentages in the text are shown to one decimal place.

The Census Bureau uses 90-percent confidence intervals and 0.10 levels of significance to determine statistical validity (see Appendix B). Comparisons in the text of this report that do not meet this standard are described as being not significant. Current Population Survey data are weighted to population estimates based on the 1990 census counts adjusted for undercoverage in 1990.

Copies of this report are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. General questions about the report may be addressed to A. Dianne Schmidley, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington DC 20233-8800, or to the e-mail address *pop@census.gov*.

Highlights

1. Trends in International Migration and the Foreign-Born Population

The estimated foreign-born population of the United States in March 2000 was 28.4 million, based on data collected in the Current Population Survey.

In March 2000, an estimated 10.4 percent of the U.S. population was foreign born, up from 7.9 percent in 1990.

The rapid increase in the foreign-born population from 9.6 million in 1970 to 28.4 million in 2000 reflects the high level of international migration during the past generation.

2. Region of Birth

Among the 14.5 million foreign-born population from Latin America in March 2000 (51.0 percent or about half of the foreign born), 9.8 million were from Central America (including Mexico), 2.8 million were from the Caribbean, and 1.9 million were from South America.

The remaining foreign born were from: Asia (7.2 million, or one-quarter of the total foreign-born population); Europe (4.4 million, or about one-seventh of the foreign born); Northern America (essentially Canada, 0.7 million); and other areas.

3. Country of Birth

Mexico accounted for more than one-quarter of the foreign-born population in March 2000. Mexico's proportion in 2000 is the largest recorded share any country has held since the decennial census in 1890 when about 30 percent of the foreign-born population was from Germany. (However, the March 2000 proportion for Mexico is not statistically different from the proportion shown in 1997 in P23-195.)

In 1970, 2 of the 10 leading countries of foreign birth (Mexico and Cuba) were Latin American or Asian. By 2000, these two regions may have accounted for 9 of the 10 top countries (Mexico, China, India, Korea, the Philippines, Vietnam, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and El Salvador). The exact number and the exact order after Mexico are uncertain due to sampling variability in the Current Population Survey data.

4. Geographic Distribution

In March 2000, six states had estimated foreign-born populations of 1 million or more: California (8.8 million), New York (3.6 million), Florida (2.8 million), Texas (2.4 million), New Jersey (1.2 million), and Illinois (1.2 million). These states accounted for 70.4 percent of the total foreign-born population.

In nine states, the foreign-born proportion in the population in March 2000 was estimated to be above the national average of 10.4 percent: California (25.9 percent), New York (19.6 percent), Florida (18.4 percent), Hawaii (16.1 percent), Nevada (15.2 percent), New Jersey (14.9 percent), Arizona (12.9 percent), Massachusetts (12.4 percent), and Texas (12.2 percent).

From 1960 to March 2000, the foreign-born population increased from 1.3 million to 8.8 million in California, from 0.3 million to 2.8 million in Florida, and from 0.3 million to 2.4 million in Texas. The growth in California, Florida, and Texas caused the foreign-born population to expand more rapidly in the West and South than it did in the Northeast and Midwest between 1960 and 2000.

5. Metropolitan Areas

The foreign-born population was especially concentrated in the largest metropolitan areas and in their central cities: 54.5 percent lived in the 9 metropolitan areas of 5 million or more population compared with 27.3 percent of the native population.

In March 2000, the metropolitan areas with the largest foreign-born population were Los Angeles and New York, each with 4.7 million foreign born. Together, these two metropolitan areas included 33.1 percent of the foreign-born population in the United States.

Among the nine largest metropolitan areas in 2000 (those with total populations of 5 million or more), Los Angeles and San Francisco had the highest proportion foreign

born at 30.0 percent each. For metropolitan areas with 1 million to 5 million population in 2000, Miami had the highest proportion foreign born at 42.7 percent.

6. Length of Residence

The median length of residence in the United States of the foreign-born population was 14.4 years in 2000 compared with 12.2 years in 1990.

Length of residence in the United States of the foreign-born population varies greatly by region of birth. In 2000, the median length of residence was 25.0 years for the foreign-born population from Europe, 14.3 years for those from Asia, and 13.5 years for those from Latin America. (The percent for Asia does not differ significantly from that for Latin America or for the total foreign born).

7. Citizenship Status

Between 1970 and March 2000, the total foreign-born population increased by 191 percent, from 9.7 million to 28.4 million. In contrast, the naturalized citizen foreign-born population increased by 71 percent (6.2 million to 10.6 million) and the noncitizen population increased by 401 percent (3.5 million to 17.8 million).

In March 2000, the proportion of naturalized citizens in the foreign-born population varied greatly by region of birth: 52.0 percent from Europe, 47.1 percent from Asia, and 28.3 percent from Latin America. The low proportion from Latin America is attributable primarily to the low figure for the Central America (21.1 percent), most of whom are from Mexico.

8. Nativity, Parentage, and Foreign Stock

In March 2000, 55.9 million or one-fifth of the U.S. population was of foreign stock. This number included 28.4 million foreign born, 14.8 million of foreign parentage (native with both parents foreign born), and 12.7 million of mixed parentage (native with one parent foreign born).

The foreign stock population is likely to increase in the future as recent international migrants form families. One indication of this is the increase in the proportion of births to foreign-born women residing in the United States: from 6 percent in 1970 to 20.2 percent in 1999.

9. Hispanic Origin and Race

Categories of ethnicity and race are not interchangeable with geographic regions used in this report. For example, the March 2000 data show 15.3 percent of the foreign born were born in Europe, however, 67.9 percent of the foreign born were White, and 24.8 percent were White non-Hispanic.

While the foreign born from some regions of the world are relatively homogeneous by race, this is not true of all regions. For example, in March 2000, 96.0 percent of the foreign born from Europe and 89.1 percent of the foreign born from North America (essentially Canada) where White non-Hispanic. Of the foreign born from Asia, 83.7 percent were Asian and Pacific Islander (not statistically different from the proportion White non-Hispanic from Northern America), and 14.5 percent were White non-Hispanic. In contrast, the foreign-born population from Africa was very heterogeneous — no one race was dominant.

In March 2000, the Current Population Survey showed 10.4 percent of the total population was foreign born. The proportion was much higher among Asians and Pacific Islanders (61.4 percent) and Hispanics (39.1 percent) but much lower for Blacks (6.3 percent) and for White non-Hispanics (3.9 percent). Thus Asians and Pacific Islanders and Hispanics are much more likely to be foreign born than Blacks and White non-Hispanics.

10. Age and Sex

In 2000, the median ages of the foreign-born (38.1 years) and native (34.5 years) populations did not differ greatly, but their age distributions differed considerably. In the foreign-born population, 10.0 percent of the people were under 18 years old, and 58.7 percent were 25 to 54 years old, whereas the corresponding proportions in the

native population were 28.3 percent and 41.7 percent.

The sex ratio (the number of males for every 100 females) of the foreign-born population was 100.1 compared with 95.0 for the native population.

In 2000, the median age of the foreign-born population was 50.0 years for those from Europe, 39.2 for those from Asia, and 35.3 for those from Latin America.

11. Household Size and Type

In March 2000, 11.1 percent of all households, or 11.6 million households, had a foreign-born householder.

The average size of households with a foreign-born householder (foreign-born households) was 3.26, considerably larger than the average size of 2.54 for households with a native householder (native households). Foreign-born households had larger average numbers of children under age 18 (0.99 versus 0.65).

Whereas native households included an average of only 0.03 foreign-born members in 2000, foreign-born households included an average of 1.08 native members. Native members represented one-third (33.1 percent) of the members of foreign-born households.

Average household size among foreign-born householders ranged from a high for Latin America (3.72) to lows for Northern America (2.32) and Europe (2.38). (The latter two averages are not statistically different.)

12. Families and Related Children

The average size of families with a foreign-born householder (foreign-born families) in 2000 was 3.72 compared with 3.10 for families with a native householder (native families). Foreign-born families had larger average numbers of both adults, 2.47 versus 2.15, and of children, 1.25 versus 0.94.

Among married-couple families with a foreign-born householder in 2000, the proportion with one or more related children under age 18 ranged from 35.0 percent for householders from Europe to 73.4 percent for Latin American householders. Among married-couple family householders from Mexico, the proportion was 80.4 percent.

Of the 55.3 million married-couple families in 2000, 8.7 million, or 15.7 percent, included at least one foreign-born spouse. Of these couples, 5.5 million had both spouses foreign born, 1.7 million had a foreign-born wife and a native husband, and 1.5 million had a foreign-born husband and a native wife.

13. Children Living With Foreign-Born Householders

In 2000, 72.1 million children (under age 18) lived in households. Nearly 1 in 6 of these children lived with a foreign-born householder (foreign-born households). Of the 11.5 million children living in foreign-born households, 8.9 million or 77.7 percent were native, and 2.6 million were foreign born. In contrast, nearly all of the children living in native households were native.

Most of the children under age 18 living in foreign-born family households (98.7 percent) were related to the householder. The majority of these children (89.4 percent) were the householder's own child, and the rest were other relatives such as grandchildren, nephews, or nieces (9.3 percent). A small proportion of these children (1.3 percent) were unrelated. Comparable figures for native households were 91.5 percent, 7.5 percent, and 1.1 percent respectively. (There was no statistical difference between foreign-born and native households in the proportions of unrelated children.)

Preschool age children, or those less than 6 years old, represented 35.3 percent of children living in foreign-born households, compared with 32.2 percent of children in native households. Among children in foreign-born households, a major difference existed in the age structure of native and foreign-born children: 41.6 percent of native children living with foreign-born householders were under the age of 6 compared with

only 13.5 percent of foreign-born children.

14. Education

In 2000, the proportion of the population age 25 and older who had completed high school or more education in March 2000 was lower among the foreign-born population (67.0 percent) than among the native population (86.6 percent).

Among individuals with less than a high school education, those with less than a 5th grade education represented about 1 in 5 of the foreign born but only about 1 in 20 of the native population.

For the population aged 25 and older, 95.0 percent of the foreign born from Africa had completed high school or more education by March 2000. The high school completion rates for the foreign born from Europe (81.3 percent), Asia (83.8 percent), Northern America (85.5 percent), and South America (79.6 percent) were not statistically different from each other, but they were all well above the proportion for Mexico (33.8 percent) and the foreign-born average (67.0 percent).

15. Labor Force

In March 2000, the foreign-born population accounted for 17.4 million, or 12.4 percent, of the total civilian labor force of 140.5 million. The labor force participation rate of the foreign-born population was 66.6 percent, not significantly different from 67.3 percent for the native population.

Among the population age 16 and older, the labor force participation rate in 2000 was higher for foreign-born males (79.6 percent) than for native males (73.4 percent). For females, the labor force participation rate was lower among the foreign-born population (53.7 percent) than among the native population (61.6 percent).

For foreign-born males in 2000, labor force participation rates for the 25 to 54 age group did not vary by region of birth (Figure 15-3); however, there was some variation among females. For females born in Mexico, the labor force participation rate was 55.1 percent, compared with 66.5 percent for all foreign-born females.

16. Occupation

In March 2000, managerial, professional, technical, sales, and administrative support occupations accounted for 45.6 percent of foreign-born workers, compared with 61.5 percent of native workers. Higher proportions of foreign-born compared with native workers filled service occupations (19.2 percent versus 13.2 percent); worked as operators, fabricators, and laborers (18.7 percent versus 12.7 percent); worked in precision production, craft, and repair jobs (12.1 percent versus 10.5 percent); or held farming, forestry, and fishing jobs (4.5 percent versus 2.1 percent). (The proportion of foreign-born workers holding service jobs (19.2 percent) was not significantly different from the proportion in precision production, craft, and repair jobs (18.7 percent).)

Professional and managerial specialty occupations accounted for 38.1 percent of workers from Europe and 38.7 percent of workers from Asia (not statistically different), compared with 12.1 percent of workers from Latin America.

Operators, fabricators, and laborers accounted for 24.8 percent of workers from Latin America, while farming, forestry, and fishing occupations lay claim to another 7.8 percent of these workers. Among foreign-born workers from Mexico, 28.6 percent were in the operators, fabricators, and laborers occupational group, and 12.9 percent were in the farming, forestry, and fishing occupational group.

17. Earnings

In 1999, median earnings for full-time, year-round foreign-born male and female workers were $27,239 and $22,139, respectively, compared with $37,528 and $26,698 respectively, for native male and female workers. The female-to-male earnings ratio was higher for foreign-born workers (0.81) than for native workers (0.71).

Among foreign-born male workers, 44.9 percent had

earnings less than $25,000, while 23.2 percent had earnings of $50,000 or more. Among their native counterparts, the corresponding proportions were 24.2 percent and 33.0 percent, respectively.

Among foreign-born female workers, 55.5 percent had earnings less than $25,000, while 12.0 percent had earnings of $50,000 or more. Among their native counterparts, the corresponding proportions were 44.1 percent and 13.2 percent, respectively. Even though the median earnings of foreign-born female workers were lower than those of native female workers, the proportions with earnings of $50,000 or more were not significantly different.

18. Household Income

In 1999, the median income for households with a foreign-born householder was $36,048, compared with $41,383 for households with a native householder. Among foreign-born households, the proportion of households with incomes below $25,000 and with incomes of $50,000 or more was about equal — 34.5 percent and 36.2 percent, respectively. In contrast, 30.2 percent of native households had an income of less than $25,000, and 41.6 percent had an income of $50,000 or more.

The lower income of foreign-born households was not explained by the number of earners per household. The average number of earners per foreign-born household (1.60) was higher than the average for native households (1.40).

In 1999, households with a householder born in Asia had a median income of $51,363. This was well above the median income of native households as well as other foreign-born households. The income for European households ($41,733) was not statistically different from the native median but was much higher than the median income for Latin American households ($29,388).

The higher median income of Asian households was mostly due to a combination of three factors: the high proportion of Asian foreign-born males and female workers who held high-paying managerial and professional jobs (a characteristic they shared with male European workers); the low proportion of householders from Asia age 65 and older (compared with the foreign born from Europe); and the high proportion of Asian women in the labor force.

19. Poverty Status

In 1999, the official poverty rate was 16.8 percent for the foreign-born population, compared with 11.2 percent for the native population. Of the 32.3 million individuals below the poverty level, 4.8 million, or 14.7 percent, were foreign-born.

Among the foreign-born population, the poverty rates in 1999 were relatively low (and not significantly different from each other) for the populations from Europe (9.3 percent) and Asia (12.8 percent). For the population from Latin America, the poverty rate was 21.9 percent.

Among the foreign-born population from Latin America, the poverty rates ranged from 11.5 percent for the population from South America to 25.8 percent for the population from Mexico.

20. Program Participation

In 1999, 2.5 million (21.2 percent) of households with foreign-born householders and 13.5 million (14.6 percent) of households with native householders participated in one or more of the following means-tested programs providing noncash benefits: food stamps, housing assistance, or medicaid. The highest participation rates were for medicaid — 18.6 percent of foreign-born households and 12.1 percent of native households.

In 1999, 8.0 percent of households with a foreign-born householder and 5.6 of households with a native householder participated in one or more of the following means-tested programs providing cash benefits: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), General Assistance (GA), or Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

Among foreign-born households, participation rates in

noncash means-tested programs are higher for households with noncitizen householders (24.8 percent) than for households with naturalized-citizen householders (16.9 percent). For cash means-tested programs, the participation rate was 8.0 percent for both noncitizen and naturalized-citizen households.

21. Health Insurance

In 1999, 66.6 percent of the foreign-born population compared with 86.5 percent of the native population had health insurance for all or part of the year. (Health insurance includes government insurance plans such as medicare, medicaid, or military health care and private insurance plans.)

Among workers in 1999, 44.5 percent of those who were foreign born and 54.6 percent of those who were native had employment-based health insurance. Among foreign-born workers, the proportions ranged from 36.2 percent for residents in the United States for less than 10 years to 54.8 percent for those resident 20 years or more. The proportions were 54.6 percent for naturalized citizens and 37.9 percent for noncitizens.

22. Homeownership

In 2000, the homeownership rate for the United States was 67.2 percent. The homeownership rate for foreign-born householders was 48.8 percent, compared with 69.5 percent for households with a native householder. For foreign-born households, the homeownership rate was much higher when the householder was a naturalized citizen (66.5 percent) than when the householder was not a citizen (33.5 percent).

Among the foreign-born, homeownership for naturalized citizen householders was more likely for those who lived in the United States 10 or more years, compared with those who lived here less than 10 years.

Among the regions of birth with 1 million or more foreign-born householders, the homeownership rate was 63.5 percent for householders from Europe, 52.0 percent for householders from Asia, and 41.2 percent for householders from Latin America. The homeownership rates for householders from Europe, Asia, and Latin America under age 35 were all about 25.0 percent.

Section 1.

Trends in Immigration and the Foreign-Born Population

The foreign-born population reached 28 million in 2000.

The estimated foreign-born population of the United States in March 2000 was 28.4 million based on data collected in the Current Population Survey[1] (Figure 1-1). Previously, the foreign-born population had expanded from 9.6 million in 1970, the lowest total in this century, to 14.1 million in 1980 and to 19.8 million in 1990.[2]

The proportion foreign born increased from 6.2 percent in 1980 to 7.9 percent in 1990. By March 2000, an estimated 10.4 percent of the U.S. population was foreign born, the highest proportion since 1930.

Historically, the foreign-born population increased during each decade until 1930 and then declined until 1970.

With the exception of the 1860s (which included the Civil War) and the 1890s (which included the "closing" of the agricultural frontier and economic depression), the number of international migrants to the United States increased in each decade from the 1820s to the 1901-1910 decade (Figure 1-2).[3] Data from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) indicate that the number of immigrants increased from 0.1 million in the 1820s to 8.8 million in the 1901-1910 decade, the highest total on record for a single decade. Census data reflect this migration trend and show that the foreign-born population increased rapidly from 2.2 million in 1850, the first year place of birth data were collected, to 13.5 million in 1910.[4]

Foreign-born and native populations.

Simply put, the foreign born are not U.S. citizens at birth. The foreign-born population is classified by citizenship status: those who have become U.S. citizens through naturalization and those who are not U.S. citizens. Natives, as defined by the Census Bureau, were born in the United States, in U.S. Island Areas such as Puerto Rico, or were born in a foreign country of at least one parent who was a United States citizen.

The foreign-born population includes immigrants, as defined above, legal nonimmigrants (e.g., refugees and persons on student or work visas), and persons illegally residing in the United States.

Immigrants and immigration.

Immigrants, as defined in the Immigration and Nationality Act, are aliens admitted to the United States for lawful permanent residence. They may be issued immigrant visas overseas by the Department of State or adjusted to permanent resident status in the United States by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Immigration is defined here as the number of immigrants during a specified period of time, such as a year or a decade.

Further information.

For a detailed discussion, see Appendix A, "Foreign Born and Other Terms: Definitions and Concepts."

The number of new foreign-born arrivals declined between 1911 and the 1920s, due first to World War I and then to restrictive immigration legislation enacted in 1921 and 1924. The new legislation established a national origin quota system that severely limited immigration and favored countries in the Western Hemisphere and Northern or Western Europe.[5]

As a result of decreased migration to the United States, the foreign-born population increased slowly to 14.2 million in 1930. The proportion foreign born in the total population, which had fluctuated in the 13 percent to 15 percent range from 1860 to 1920, dropped from 14.7 percent in 1910 to 11.6 percent in 1930.

Following a reduced flow of international migrants in the 1930s and 1940s (due partly to economic depression and then to World War II), the U.S. foreign-born population dropped to 10.3 million in 1950 or 6.9 percent of the total population. The number of international migrants to the United States increased in the 1950s and 1960s, but remained relatively low compared to earlier decades. As a result of four decades of low immigration, the foreign-born population dropped to 9.6 million in 1970 or a record low of 4.7 percent of the total population.

The national origins quota system, which was enacted in the 1920s and reaffirmed in the Immigration and Nationality Act of

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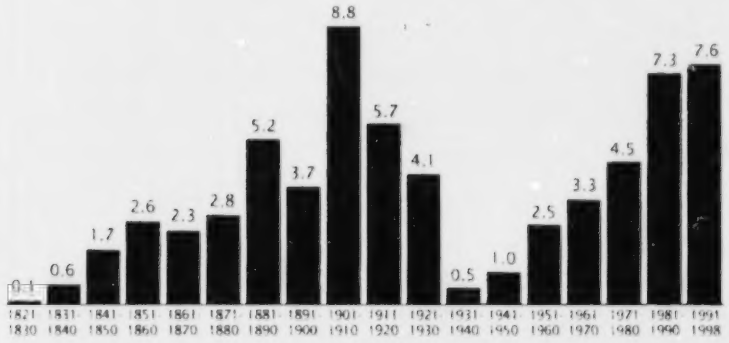
Figure 1-1.
Foreign-Born Population and Percent of Total Population for the United States: 1850 to 2000

(For 1850-1990, resident population. For 2000, civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1999a, Table 1, and 2001, Table 1-1.

Figure 1-2.
Immigrants to the United States by Decade: Fiscal Years, 1821 to 1998

(Numbers millions)



Source: U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 2000, Table 1.

1952, was eliminated by the 1965 Amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952. This legislation and subsequent legislation, including the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, which permitted some illegal aliens to obtain lawful permanent residence, and the Immigration Act of 1990, which increased the annual cap on immigration, have contributed to increased international migration.

[1]Data from the Current Population Survey (CPS) include the civilian noninstitutionalized population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post.

[2]While legal immigration has been the primary source for growth in the foreign-born population since 1965, the number of illegal aliens has also probably increased the foreign-born population (Immigration and Naturalization Service, 2000, pp. 239-243).

[3]For a detailed discussion of trends in immigration to the United States, see U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1991, special section on "Trends in Immigration," pp. 13-34. See also U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 2000, Appendix 1, "Immigration and Naturalization Legislation."

[4]The highest number of international migrants recorded for a 10-year period was 10.1 million for the years 1905-14 (INS, 2000, p. 19). However, Warren and Kraly estimate emigration was also high during this period — approximately 3.2 million (Warren and Kraly, 1985, p. 5). For the 1901-10 decade, when the number of immigrants was 8.8 million, they estimate emigration was 3.0 million (U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 2000, p. 238).

[5]Ibid., Appendix 1, "Immigration and Naturalization Legislation."

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Section 2.

Region of Birth

One-half of the foreign-born population is from Latin America.

In 2000, 14.5 million of the foreign-born population living in the United States was born in Latin America, up from 8.4 million in 1990 (Figure 2-1).[1] This increase represented a continuation of the rapid growth in the foreign-born population from Latin America since 1960 when the figure was 0.9 million. From 1970, when the total foreign-born population started to increase dramatically, to 2000, the increase in the foreign-born population from Latin America accounted for 12.7 million, or 67.6 percent, of the total increase of 18.8 million.

The foreign-born population from Latin America accounted for 51.0 percent of the foreign-born population in 2000 (Figure 2-2). The proportion of the foreign-born population from Latin America increased rapidly from 9.4 percent in 1960 to 19.4 percent in 1970, to 33.1 percent in 1980 and to 44.3 percent in 1990.

Central Americans form a growing share of the foreign born from Latin America.

Among the 14.5 million foreign-born population from Latin America in 2000, 9.8 million were from Central America (including Mexico), 2.8 million were from the Caribbean, and 1.9 million were from South America.[2] In 1970, when the foreign-born population from Latin America was 1.8 million, 0.9 million were from Central America, 0.7 million were from the Caribbean, and 0.3 million were from South America. From 1970 to 2000, the foreign-born population from Central America rose from 48.4 percent to 67.6 percent of the total born in Latin America.

One-quarter of the foreign-born population is from Asia.

In 2000, about 7.2 million of the foreign born living in the United States were born in Asia compared with 5.0 million in 1990. The increase reflects a pattern established shortly after 1965 when U.S. national origins quotas were abolished. In 1960, the foreign-born population from Asia stood at 0.5 million. During the 1970s the population more than tripled, and then in the 1980s it nearly doubled to about 5.0 million people.

By March 2000, the foreign-born population from Asia constituted 25.5 percent of the foreign-born population. The apparent difference in the proportion between 2000 and 1990 when the foreign-born population from Asia was 26.3 percent is not statistically significant. Previously, the Asian born share of the foreign-born population had increased from 5.1 percent in 1960 to 8.9 percent in 1970 and to 19.3 percent in 1980.

Nearly one-seventh of the foreign born are from Europe.

As suggested by the discussion of historical trends in immigration in Section 1, European countries were the primary source of the foreign-born population in the United States until the immigration laws were changed in 1965 (Figure 2-2). Survey data from March 2000 show that about 15.3 percent of the foreign born were from Europe. Slightly more than half of the 4.3 million European foreign born came from countries in Southern and Eastern Europe.

Through 1960, Northern America (essentially Canada) was the second largest source of the foreign-born population after Europe.[3] From 1960 to 1990, the proportion of the foreign-born population from Northern America dropped from 9.8 percent to 4.0 percent. In 2000, the proportion of the foreign-born population from Northern America was 2.5 percent.

In 2000, the foreign-born population from Africa was 0.7 million, up from 0.4 million in 1990. The foreign-born population from Oceania (mostly Australia) remained statistically unchanged at 0.15 million. In 1960, the foreign-born population from Africa and Oceania each was 35,000.[4]

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[1] The six regions of the world used in this report are those defined by the United Nations and used in its annual Demographic Yearbook. These regions are Europe, Asia, Africa, Oceania, Latin America, and Northern America (United Nations, 1996, pp. 30-31). Region of origin is not equivalent with race. For example, 14.5 percent of the foreign born from Asia are non-Hispanic white. See Section 9, Hispanic Origin and Race.

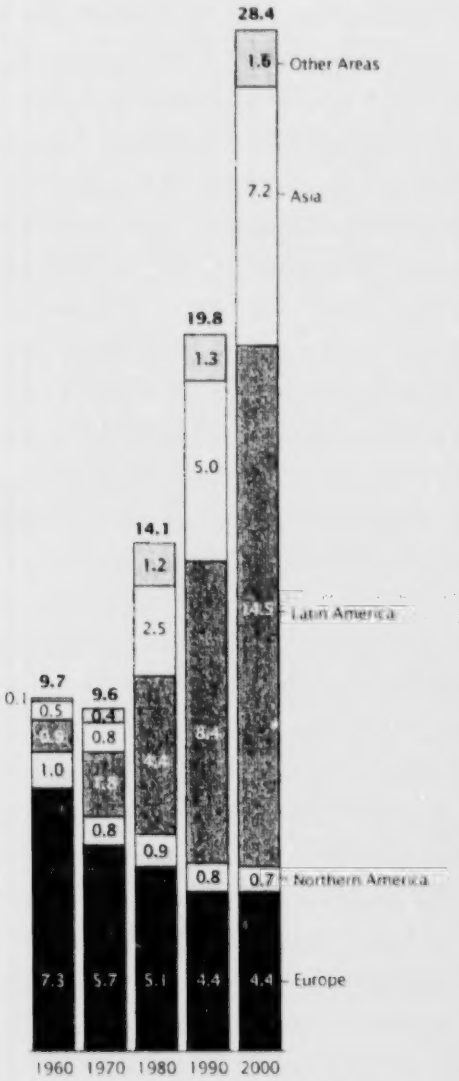
[2] The subregions of Latin America, including Mexico as a part of Central America, are defined by the United Nations. See footnote 1.

[3] In addition to Canada, foreign countries in Northern America include Bermuda, Greenland, and two tiny islands governed by France, St. Pierre, and Miquelon.

[4] For census data the "Other Areas" category includes people for whom place of birth was never reported, so fluctuations in this category through 1990 are often due to reporting changes. For March 2000, the "Other Areas" category is composed of foreign born from Africa and Oceania and a few cases from Antarctica and At Sea. (See U.S. Census Bureau, 1999.)

Figure 2-1.
Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: 1960 to 2000

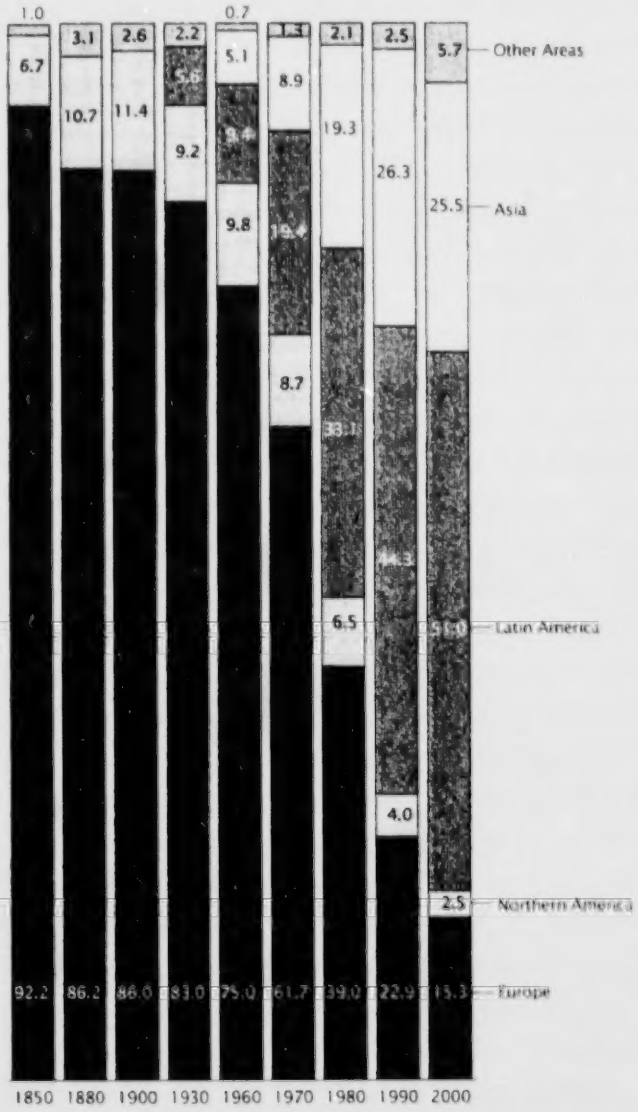
(Numbers in millions. For 1960-90, resident population. For 2000, civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 2 and Table 1.1

Figure 2-2.
Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: Selected Years, 1850 to 2000

(Percent distribution. For 1960-90, resident population. For 2000, civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 2 and Table 1.1

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Section 3.

Country of Birth

More than one-quarter of the foreign born is from Mexico.

In 2000, 7.8 million of the foreign-born population living in the United States were born in Mexico, an increase of 3.5 million, or 82.4 percent, over the 1990 figure for Mexico of 4.3 million (Figure 3-1). Previously, the foreign-born population from Mexico rose from 0.8 million in 1970 to 2.2 million in 1980.

The foreign-born population from Mexico accounted for 27.6 percent of the foreign born in 2000. Previously, the Mexican proportion was 8.2 percent in 1970, 16.7 percent in 1980, and 22.7 percent in 1990. Mexico's proportion in 2000 is the largest recorded share any country has held since the decennial census in 1890 when about 30 percent of the foreign-born population was from Germany. The foreign-born population from Mexico in 2000 was about six times as large as the foreign-born population from the next highest ranked country: China.

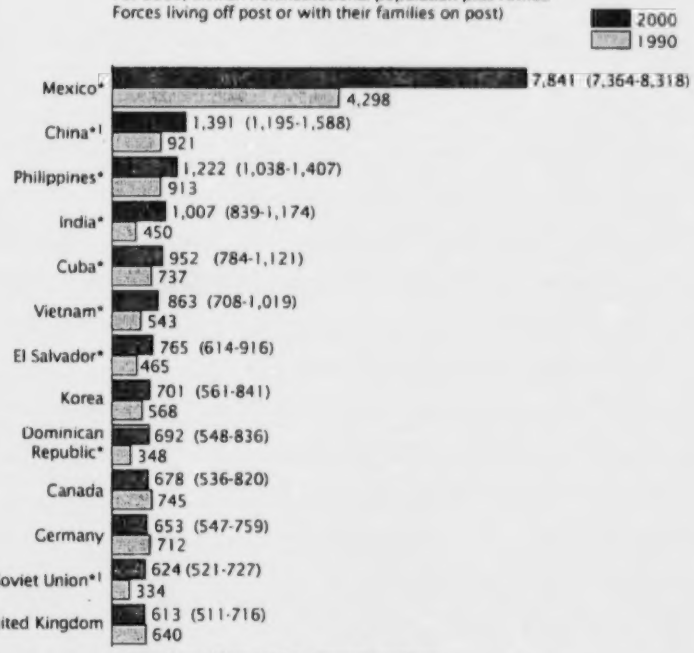
In addition to the large increase in the foreign-born population from Mexico during the period from 1990 to 2000, statistically significant increases in the foreign-born population occurred for several countries with 0.5 million or more foreign-born population in 2000: China,[1] the Philippines, India, Cuba, Vietnam, El Salvador, the Dominican Republic, and the combined countries in Europe that were once part of the former Soviet Union.[2]

Most of the 10 leading countries of birth of the foreign-born population are in Latin America and Asia.

In 1960, Mexico was the only Latin American or Asian country among the 10 leading countries of birth of the foreign-born population (Table 3-1). The number increased to two in 1970 with the addition of Cuba; to four in 1980 with the addition of the Philippines and Korea; and to six in 1990 with the addition of Vietnam and China. Although the sample size in the Current Population Survey is not large enough to rank most countries with complete accuracy (note the 90-percent confidence intervals shown in Figure 3-1), the number of Latin American and Asian countries among the 10 leading countries of birth of the foreign-born population may have reached 9 in 2000 (with the addition of India, the Dominican Republic, and El Salvador).[3]

Figure 3-1.
Countries of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population With 500,000 or More in 2000: 1990 and 2000

(Numbers in thousands. 90-percent confidence intervals in parentheses for 2000 estimates. For 1990, resident population. For 2000, civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



*Change from 1990 to 2000 is statistically significant.
[1]See text footnotes 1 and 2, respectively, regarding China and the Soviet Union.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 3, and Tables 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, and 3-4.

Historically, European countries and Canada were the leading countries of birth of the foreign-born population.

At each census from 1850 through 1960, the 10 leading countries of birth of the foreign-born population were predominantly European countries and Canada. The only exceptions were Mexico (1850-60, 1920-60) and China (1860-80). Prior to 1980, when Mexico became the leading country of birth of the foreign-born population, the leading countries were Ireland (1850-70), Germany (1880-20), and Italy (1930-1970). The 10 leading countries of birth of the foreign-born population in selected years are shown in Table 3-1.

[1] Including Hong Kong and Taiwan. Data for Hong Kong and Taiwan corresponding to the format in Figure 3-1 are (in thousands): Hong Kong (147 for 1990 and 195 (121-269) for 2000); Taiwan (244 for 1990 and 325 (230-420) for 2000). The 2000 populations for Hong Kong and Taiwan are not statistically different from their 1990 populations.

[2] The Soviet Union as defined prior to January 1, 1992, excluding Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan which are included with Asia in this report. In 1992, the United States formally recognized 12 independent republics within the former Soviet Union. See Immigration and Naturalization Service, 2000, p. 10.

[3] Given the uncertainty as to whether or not Cuba, Vietnam, El Salvador, Korea, and the Dominican Republic are in the top 10 in 2000, the number may be as low as 4 (if none of the 5 is among the 10 leading countries) or as high as 9 (if all 5 are among the 10 leading countries).

Table 3-1.
Leading Countries of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population: Selected Years, 1850 to 1990
(Resident population)

Subject	1850	1880	1900	1930	1960	1970	1980	1990
Number of 10 Leading Countries by Region								
Total	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Europe	8	8	9	8	8	7	5	3
Northern America	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Latin America	1	-	-	1	1	2	2	2
Asia	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	4
10 Leading Countries by Rank[1] (foreign-born population in thousands)								
1	Ireland	Germany	Germany	Italy	Italy	Italy	Mexico	Mexico
	962	1,967	2,663	1,790	1,257	1,009	2,199	4,298
2	Germany	Ireland	Ireland	Germany	Germany	Germany	Germany	China
	584	1,855	1,615	1,609	990	833	849	921
3	Great Britain	Great Britain	Canada	United Kingdom	Canada	Canada	Canada	Philippines
	379	918	1,180	1,403	953	812	843	913
4	Canada	Canada	Great Britain	Canada	United Kingdom	Mexico	Italy	Canada
	148	717	1,168	1,310	833	760	832	745
5	France	Sweden	Sweden	Poland	Poland	United Kingdom	United Kingdom	Cuba
	54	194	582	1,269	748	686	669	737
6	Switzerland	Norway	Italy	Soviet Union	Soviet Union	Poland	Cuba	Germany
	13	182	484	1,154	691	548	608	712
7	Mexico	France	Russia	Ireland	Mexico	Soviet Union	Philippines	United Kingdom
	13	107	424	745	576	463	501	640
8	Norway	China	Poland	Mexico	Ireland	Cuba	Poland	Italy
	13	104	383	641	339	439	418	581
9	Holland	Switzerland	Norway	Sweden	Austria	Ireland	Soviet Union	Korea
	10	89	336	595	305	251	406	568
10	Italy	Bohemia	Austria	Czechoslovakia	Hungary	Austria	Korea	Vietnam
	4	85	276	492	245	214	290	543

- Represents zero.
[1] In general, countries as reported at each census. Data are not totally comparable over time due to changes in boundaries for some countries. Great Britain excludes Ireland. United Kingdom includes Northern Ireland. China in 1990 includes Hong Kong and Taiwan.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 3 and 4.

Section 4.

Geographic Distribution

The foreign-born population is highly concentrated in a few states.

In 2000, 6 states had estimated foreign-born populations of 1 million or more: California (8.8 million), New York (3.6 million), Florida (2.8 million), Texas (2.4 million), New Jersey (1.2 million), and Illinois (1.2 million) (Table 4-1 and Figure 4-1). These 6 states accounted for 20.0 million, or 70.4 percent, of the total foreign-born population, but only 39.3 percent of the total population. The concentration of the foreign-born population in these six states increased from 56.5 percent in 1960 to 70.4 percent in 2000 while their proportion of the total population increased from 35.2 percent in 1960 to 39.3 percent by 2000.

In five of these states, the proportion foreign born exceeded the national average of 10.4 percent: California (25.9 percent), New York (19.6 percent), Florida (18.4 percent), New Jersey (14.9 percent), and Texas (12.2 percent). The proportion foreign born in Illinois (9.5 percent) fell below the national average.

Although their foreign-born population did not exceed 1 million, the proportion foreign born was significantly above the national average in 4 other states: Hawaii (16.1 percent), Nevada (15.2 percent), Arizona (12.9 percent), and Massachusetts (12.4 percent) (Figure 4-2).[1] In contrast, 33 states located mostly in the Midwest and South had an estimated proportion foreign born of 5 percent or less in 2000.

Most of the growth in the foreign-born population has occurred in California, Florida, and Texas.

From 1960 to 2000, the foreign-born population increased from 1.3 million to 8.8 million in California, from 0.3 million to 2.8 million in Florida, and from 0.3 million to 2.4 million in Texas. The combined foreign-born population in these 3 states rose from 1.9 million to 14.0 million, an increase of 12.1 million people, or 64.8 percent of the growth of the total foreign-born population during this period. These three states combined accounted for 40.9 percent of the growth in the total U.S. population between 1960 and 2000.

The regional distribution of the foreign-born population has changed sharply since 1960.

The growth of the foreign-born population in California, Florida, and Texas caused the foreign-born population to expand more rapidly in the West and South than it did in the Northeast and Midwest between 1960 and 2000 (Table 4-1). For the West and South combined, the foreign-born population grew from 2.9 million to 18.9 million and rose from 29.6 percent to 66.7 percent of the foreign-born population of the United States. During the same period, the proportion of the total population in the West and South

Table 4-1.
Foreign-Born Population by Region of Residence and for Leading States: Selected Years, 1900 to 2000

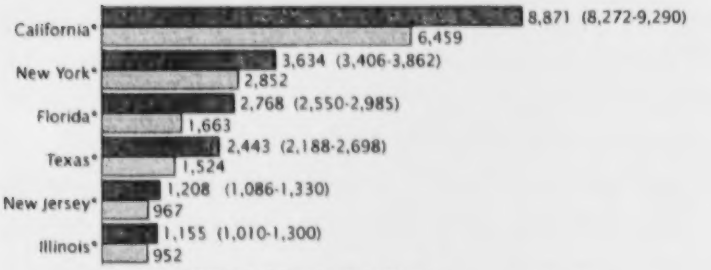
(For 1900-90 resident population. For 2000, civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)

Subject	1900	1930	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
Foreign-Born Population by Region of Residence (in thousands)							
United States	10,341	14,204	9,738	9,619	14,080	19,767	28,379
Northeast	4,763	7,202	4,575	4,120	4,506	5,231	6,420
Midwest	4,158	4,360	2,277	1,874	2,114	2,131	3,036
South	574	819	963	1,316	2,895	4,582	7,596
West	846	1,824	1,924	2,310	4,565	7,823	11,327
Percent Foreign Born in Total Population for Regions							
United States	13.6	11.6	5.4	4.7	6.2	7.9	10.4
Northeast	22.6	20.9	10.2	8.4	9.2	10.3	12.3
Midwest	15.8	11.3	4.4	3.3	3.6	3.6	4.8
South	2.3	2.2	1.8	2.1	3.8	5.4	7.9
West	20.7	15.3	6.9	6.6	10.6	14.8	18.1
Six Leading States by Rank (foreign-born population in thousands)							
1	NY	NY	NY	NY	CA	CA	CA
	1,900	3,262	2,289	2,110	3,580	6,459	8,781
2	PA	IL	CA	CA	NY	NY	NY
	985	1,242	1,344	1,758	2,389	2,852	3,634
3	IL	PA	IL	NJ	FL	FL	FL
	967	1,240	686	635	1,059	1,663	2,768
4	MA	CA	NJ	IL	TX	TX	TX
	846	1,074	615	629	856	1,524	2,443
5	MI	MA	PA	FL	IL	NJ	NJ
	542	1,066	603	540	824	967	1,208
6	WI	MI	MA	MA	NJ	IL	IL
	516	853	576	495	758	952	1,155

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1999, Table 13, and 2001, Table 4-1A.

Figure 4-1.
States With a Foreign-Born Population of 1 Million or More in 2000: 1990 and 2000

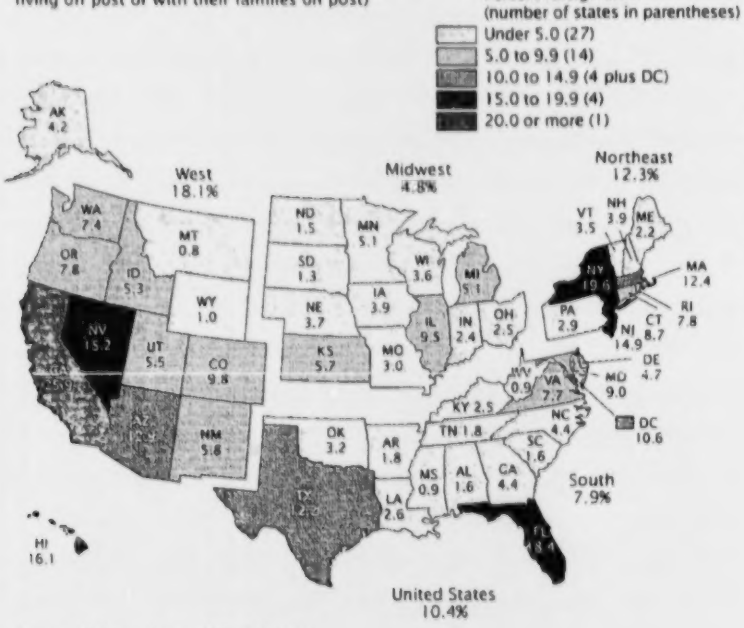
(Numbers in thousands. 90-percent confidence intervals in parentheses for 2000 estimates. For 1990, resident population. For 2000, civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



*Change from 1990 to 2000 is statistically significant.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 census of population, and 2001, Table 4-1A.

Figure 4-2.
Foreign-Born Population for States: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 4-1A.

combined rose from 46.3 percent to 57.8 percent. The changes between 1960 and 2000 in the six states with the largest foreign-born populations reflect these regional changes (Table 4-1). Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, among the top six states in 1960, were replaced by Florida and Texas.[2]

Historically, the foreign-born population was highly concentrated in the Northeast and Midwest.

In 1900 and 1930, more than 80 percent of the foreign-born population of the United States lived in the Northeast and Midwest, and in 1930, 50.7 percent lived in the Northeast alone. New York had a foreign-born population of 3.3 million in 1930, more than twice the foreign-born population of any other state and the highest census figure for any state until 1980, when the foreign-born population of California was 3.6 million.

---

[1] The proportion foreign born appears to be above the national figure in Washington, DC (10.6 percent); however, the apparent difference is not statistically significant. It should be noted that the sample size is not large enough to identify many substantively important differences involving areas with relatively small populations. See Appendix B.

[2] The change in the foreign-born population from 1960 to 2000 was statistically significant for both Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. However, the foreign-born population in Massachusetts was significantly larger in 2000 than in 1960, whereas the foreign-born population in Pennsylvania was significantly smaller in 2000 than in 1960.

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Section 5.

Metropolitan Areas

The foreign-born population is highly concentrated in a few large metropolitan areas.

In March 2000, the metropolitan areas with the largest foreign-born populations were Los Angeles and New York each with 4.7 million foreign-born persons (Figure 5-1).[1] Together, these two metropolitan areas included 9.4 million, or 33.1 percent, of the foreign-born population of 28.4 million. In contrast, they included only 13.3 percent of the total population. In three additional metropolitan areas, the foreign-born population was 1 million or more in 2000: San Francisco (2.0 million), Miami (1.6 million), and Chicago (1.1 million).[2] Together with Los Angeles and New York, these 5 metropolitan areas included 14.1 million, or 49.8 percent of the foreign-born population, but only 20.5 percent of the total population.

Among the 9 largest metropolitan areas in 2000 (those with total populations of 5 million or more), Los Angeles and San Francisco had the highest proportion foreign born (Table 5-1).[3] For metropolitan areas with 1 million to 5 million population in 2000, Miami had the highest proportion foreign born at 42.7 percent.

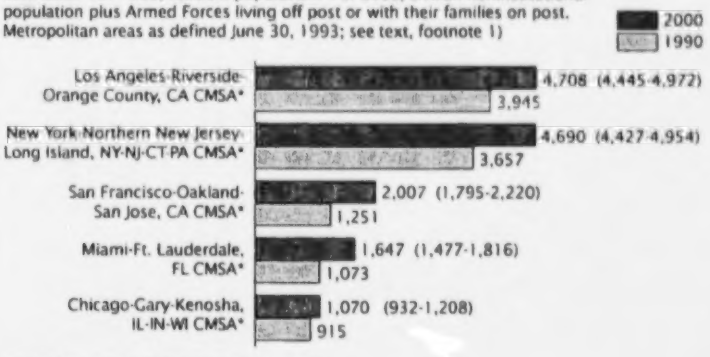
The foreign-born population is more concentrated than the native population in metropolitan areas and in their central cities.

The concentration of the foreign-born population in metropolitan areas and in their central cities is shown from two perspectives in Figure 5-2. The numbers on the left side show the proportionate distributions of the total population, the native population, and the foreign-born population by type of residence. The bar chart on the right side shows the proportion foreign born in each category of the population by type of residence.

Figure 5-1.

Metropolitan Areas With a Foreign-Born Population of 1 Million or More in 2000: 1990 and 2000

(Numbers in thousands. 90-percent confidence intervals in parentheses for 2000 estimates. For 1990, resident population. For 2000, civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post. Metropolitan areas as defined June 30, 1993; see text, footnote 1)



*Change from 1990 to 2000 is statistically significant.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1999, Table 16 and 2001, Table 5-2A.

As shown in the left side of Figure 5-2, 94.9 percent of the foreign-born population lived in metropolitan areas in 2000 compared with 79.3 percent of the native population. The difference was accounted for entirely by the differences in the proportions in central cities: 45.1 percent of the foreign-born population versus 27.5 percent of the native population. The proportion living outside central cities in metropolitan areas was slightly lower among the foreign-born population than among the native population: 49.8 percent versus 51.9 percent respectively.

The foreign-born population was especially concentrated in the largest metropolitan areas and in their central cities: 54.5 percent lived in the 9 metropolitan areas of 5 million or more population in 2000 compared with 27.3 percent of the native population. While a much higher proportion of the foreign-born population than of the native population lived in metropolitan areas of 5 million or more population in 2000, the proportions were not significantly different in metropolitan areas of 1 million up to 5 million population (about 24 percent each). The proportions were lower for the foreign-born population than for the native population in metropolitan areas with less than 1 million population (16.8 percent versus 27.6 percent) and in nonmetropolitan areas (5.1 percent versus 20.7 percent).

More than one-quarter of the central-city population of the largest metropolitan areas are foreign born.

As shown on the right side of Figure 5-2, the proportion of the population foreign born was much higher in metropolitan areas

(12.1 percent) than in nonmetropolitan areas (2.7 percent) in 2000. The proportion foreign born ranged from 18.8 percent in metropolitan areas with 5 million or more population to 6.6 percent in metropolitan areas with less than 1 million population.

The proportion of the population foreign born was higher in central cities (16.0 percent) than outside central cities in metropolitan areas (10.0 percent). The foreign-born proportion of the population was highest in central cities of metropolitan areas with 5 million or more population (25.8 percent).

Table 5-1.
Foreign-Born Population in Metropolitan Areas With 5 Million or More People: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post. Metropolitan areas as defined June 30, 1993; see text, footnote 1)

Metropolitan area	Percent foreign born
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA CMSA	22.8
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA CMSA	29.6
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI CMSA	12.3
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV CMSA	11.9
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA CMSA	28.3
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD CMSA	5.1
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI CMSA	7.4
Boston-Worcester-Lawrence, MA-NH-ME-CT CMSA	12.5
Dallas-Ft. Worth, TX CMSA	12.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 5-2A.

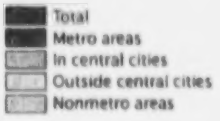
[1] Official names of metropolitan areas are provided in Figure 5-1 and Table 5-1 but are shortened in the text for readability. The general concept of a metropolitan area (MA) is one of a large population nucleus, together with adjacent communities that have a high degree of economic and social integration with that nucleus. Some MAs are defined around two or more nuclei. The Office of Management and Budget, with technical assistance from the Census Bureau, uses published standards to define MAs for use by Federal agencies. The standards provide for the classification of an MA as a metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or as a consolidated metropolitan statistical area (CSMA) with component primary metropolitan statistical areas (PMSAs). See Office of Management and Budget, 1990 and 1993.

[2] For the Chicago metropolitan area, the lower bound on the 90-percent confidence interval is less than 1 million.

[3] Dallas metropolitan area had a population estimate for which the lower bound of the 90 percent confidence interval fell below 5 million.

Figure 5-2.
Population by Nativity and Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Residence: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post. Metropolitan areas as defined June 30, 1993; see text, footnote 1)



Percent distribution by type of residence				Percent foreign born by type of residence
Total	Native	Foreign born		
100.0	100.0	100.0	Total population	10.4
80.9	79.3	94.9	Metropolitan areas	12.1
29.3	27.5	45.1	In central cities	16.0
51.6	51.9	49.8	Outside central cities	10.0
54.5	51.7	78.2	1 million or more population	14.9
18.9	16.8	37.0	In central cities	20.2
35.6	34.9	41.2	Outside central cities	12.0
30.1	27.3	54.5	5 million or more population	18.8
10.9	9.0	27.2	In central cities	25.8
19.2	18.2	27.3	Outside central cities	14.8
24.4	24.5	23.7	1 million up to 5 million population	10.0
8.0	7.8	9.8	In central cities	12.7
16.4	16.7	13.9	Outside central cities	8.8
26.4	27.6	16.8	Less than 1 million population	6.6
10.4	10.6	8.2	In central cities	8.1
16.1	16.9	8.6	Outside central cities	5.5
19.1	20.7	5.1	Nonmetropolitan areas	2.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 5-1A.

Section 6.

Length of Residence

The median length of residence of the foreign-born population is about 14 years.

In 2000, the median length of residence in the United States of the foreign-born population was 14.4 years (Figure 6-1).[1] This is slightly higher than in 1990 (12.2 years), virtually equal to 1980 (14.1 years), and much lower than in 1970 when the median was 20.3 years.[2]

In general, changes between 1970 and 2000 in the percent distribution of the foreign-born population by length of residence reflect the relatively high level of international migration during this period and the attrition (through death) of nearly all migrants who came to the United States before 1930 when international migration previously had been at relatively high levels, as discussed in Section 1. The proportion of the foreign-born population residing in the United States for 20 years or more dropped from 50.4 percent in 1970 to 32.2 percent in 2000. The proportions residing in the United States less than 5 years, 5 to 9 years, 10 to 14 years, and 15 to 19 years were all higher in 2000 than in 1970.

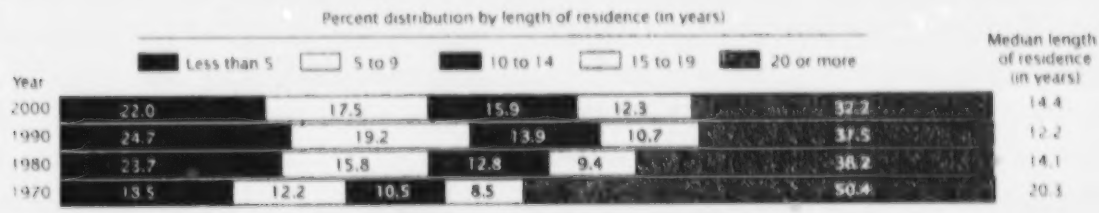
Length of residence by region of birth reflects historical patterns of international migration.

In 2000, the median length of residence in the United States of the foreign-born population was 14.3 years for the population from Asia and 13.5 years for the population from Latin America (Figure 6-2). These two medians are not significantly different from each other, nor are they significantly different from the median length of residence of 14.4 years for the total foreign-born population. The median length of residence of the population from Africa was 10.2 years in 2000, below the medians for the populations from all other world regions of birth.[3]

Among the foreign-born population from Latin America, the median was highest for those from the Caribbean, 17.6 years, reflecting the relatively large number of migrants from Cuba in the 1960s and 1970s.[4] The median lengths of residence of the population from Central America (about four fifths of whom are from Mexico) and South America, 12.9 years and 13.0 years, respectively, were not statistically different from each other and were the lowest in Latin America.[5]

The median lengths of residence in 2000 of the foreign-born populations from Northern America and Europe were 24.8 years and 25.0 years, respectively, and did not differ significantly. The median length of residence for the foreign born from Europe (25.0) was much higher than the median for the total foreign-born population (14.4).[6]

Figure 6-1.
Length of Residence[1] in the United States for the Foreign-Born Population: 1970 to 2000
(For 1970-90, resident population. For 2000, civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



[1]Census data for 1970-90 do not include persons who did not report length of residence information.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1993, Table 10, and 2001, Table 6-1.

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While 32.2 percent of the foreign born population had resided in the United States for 20 years or more, 55.5 percent of the foreign born from Europe and 57.7 percent of the foreign born from Northern America were in this category (not statistically different). Of the foreign born from Europe 35.8 percent had been living in the United States for at least 35 years. Stated differently, 35.8 percent of the European foreign born came to live in the United States before 1965.[7] Only 6.6 percent of the foreign born from Latin America came to live in the United States before 1965.

[5] The median is the value which divides the ranked population into two groups of equal size.

[6] Because reporting on year of entry (which is used to obtain data on length of residence) is subject to misstatement, small differences in length of residence do not warrant emphasis. For example, the specific question, "When did you come to live in the United States?," may be interpreted by some respondents to mean the year in which they obtained permanent legal residence in the United States.

[7] Comparisons involving Africa and Oceania and Northern America are limited due to the small sample size of the CPS for foreign born from each of these regions. See Appendix B.

[8] During the period 1988-1998, 214,752 Haitians were admitted for legal permanent residence to the United States. The entry of these immigrants has probably lowered the length of residence of the foreign born from the Caribbean. (See U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service, 2000.)

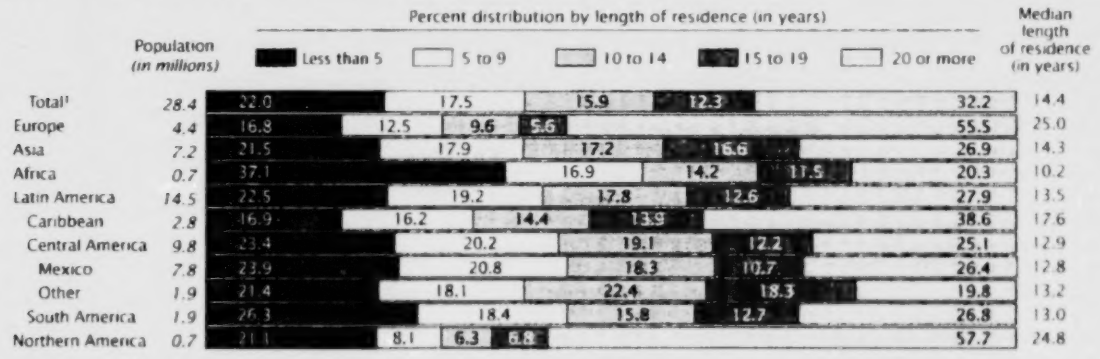
[9] There is no statistical difference between 12.9 and 14.4; there is no statistical difference between 13.0 and 14.4.

[10] Due to the small sample, the median length of residence for the foreign born from Northern America (24.8) does not differ statistically from that for the total foreign-born population (14.4), Asia (14.3), or Latin America (13.5).

[11] Recent INS data show that international migration from the countries of the former Soviet Union during the 1990s was significantly higher than during the 1980s (444,614 and 57,972, respectively). Also, 23,349 (30.6 percent) of all refugee arrivals in 1998 were from the countries of the former Soviet Union. (See U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service, 2000, and 1991.)

Figure 6-2.
Length of Residence in the United States for the Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



	Population (in millions)	Less than 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19	20 or more	Median length of residence (in years)
Total[1]	28.4	22.0	17.5	15.9	12.3	32.2	14.4
Europe	4.4	16.8	12.5	9.6	5.6	55.5	25.0
Asia	7.2	21.5	17.9	17.2	16.6	26.9	14.3
Africa	0.7	37.1	16.9	14.2	11.5	20.3	10.2
Latin America	14.5	22.5	19.2	17.8	12.6	27.9	13.5
Caribbean	2.8	16.9	16.2	14.4	13.9	38.6	17.6
Central America	9.8	23.4	20.2	19.1	12.2	25.1	12.9
Mexico	7.8	23.9	20.8	18.3	10.7	26.4	12.8
Other	1.9	21.4	18.1	22.4	18.3	19.8	13.2
South America	1.9	26.3	18.4	15.8	12.7	26.8	13.0
Northern America	0.7	21.1	8.1	6.3	6.8	57.7	24.8

[1] Total includes areas not shown separately.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 6-1

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Section 7.

Citizenship Status

The proportion of naturalized citizens in the foreign-born population has declined since 1970.

While the total foreign-born population increased by 191 percent (from 9.7 million to 28.4 million) between 1970 and 2000, the numbers of naturalized citizens and noncitizens in the foreign-born population increased at very different rates (Figure 7-1).[1] Naturalized citizens increased by 71 percent (from 6.2 million to 10.6 million), while noncitizens rose by 401 percent (from 3.5 million to 17.8 million). As a result of the more rapid growth of noncitizens, the proportion of naturalized citizens in the foreign-born population dropped from 63.6 percent in 1970 to 50.1 percent in 1980, to 40.5 percent in 1990, and to 37.4 percent in 2000.[2]

The proportion of naturalized citizens has declined in each length-of-residence category.

The proportion of naturalized citizens in the foreign-born population declined from 1970 to 2000, not only for the total foreign-born population, but for every category of length of residence in the United States (Figure 7-2). As measured by percentage-point change, the declines were most pronounced for the foreign-born population residing in the United States for 10 to 14 years (57.5 percent to 29.4 percent). Most of the decline in the proportion of naturalized citizens in the foreign-born population is attributable to the proportionate declines in citizenship within each length-of-residence category. Changes in the distribution of the foreign-born population by length of residence in the United States are a secondary factor. (The median length of residence of the foreign-born population dropped from 20.3 years in 1970 to 14.4 years in 2000, as discussed in Section 6.)

As noted above, the proportion of naturalized citizens dropped from 63.6 percent in 1970 to 37.4 percent in 2000, or by 26.2 percentage points. Declines in proportions of naturalized citizens in the length-of-residence categories account for 17.9 percentage points of the decrease, and the changes in the distribution by length of residence account for 8.3 percentage points of the decrease.[3]

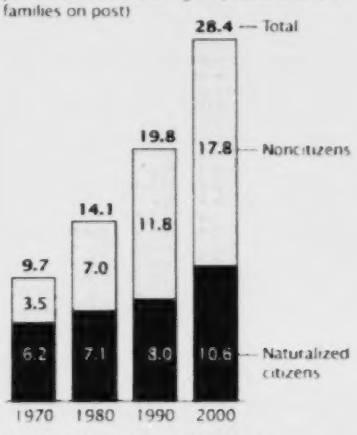
The proportion of naturalized citizens varies greatly by region of birth.

The proportion of naturalized citizens among the foreign-born population in 2000 was 52.0 percent for the population from Europe, 47.1 percent for the population from Asia, and 28.3 percent for the population from Latin America (Figure 7-3). The low proportion for the population from Latin America is attributable primarily to the low figure for the population from Central America (21.1 percent), most of whom are from Mexico.

Differences in the proportion naturalized by region of birth are explained only partly by differences in length of residence in the United States. For example, in March 2000, proportions naturalized among the Mexico foreign born whose length of residence in the United States was 5 to 9 years, 10 to 14 years, 15 to 19 years, or 20 years or more were lower than corresponding rates for the total foreign-born population. The respective length of residence figures for Mexico and the total foreign born were 6.2 percent versus 13.2 percent, 14.2 percent versus 29.4 percent, 28.9 percent versus 51.2 percent, and 47.0 percent versus 71.1 percent.

Figure 7-1.
Foreign Born Population by Citizenship Status: 1970 to 2000

(In millions. For 1970-90, resident population. For 2000, civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1999, Table 11, and 2001, Table 7.1.

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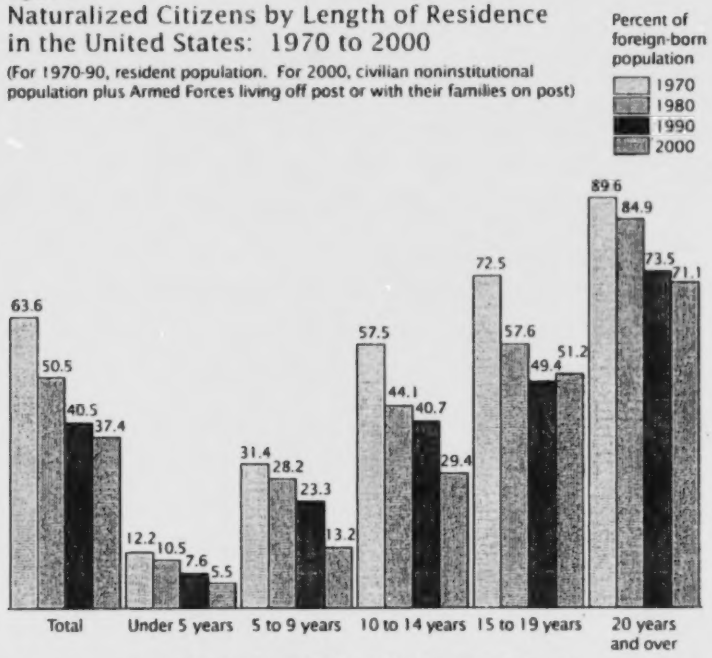
Figure 7-2.
Naturalized Citizens by Length of Residence in the United States: 1970 to 2000

(For 1970-90, resident population. For 2000, civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1973, Table 17; 1985, Table 2; 1993a, Table 1; 1999b, Figure 7-2; and 2001, Table 7-1.

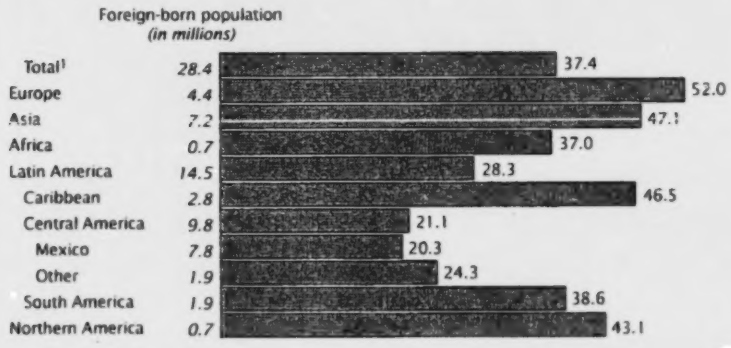
[1] Some individuals who are foreign born may erroneously report themselves as U.S. citizens. The naturalization process requires the foreign-born applicant reside continuously in the United States for 5 years (or less for special categories of immigrants) following admission as a legal permanent resident. See also Section 6, footnote 1, concerning limitations of data on length of residence in the United States.

[2] Evidence from the Current Population Survey indicates the decades-long decline in the proportion of naturalized citizens may have ended. The March 1997 proportion was 35.1 percent, statistically different from and lower than the March 2000 figure of 37.4 percent. For censuses prior to 1970, data on citizenship status of the foreign-born population are available for 1890-1950. (U.S. Census Bureau, 1999, Table 11).

[3] The 1970 distribution of the foreign-born population by length of residence combined with the 2000 proportions of naturalized citizens would have produced a decline in the proportion of naturalized citizens from 63.6 percent to 45.8 percent. The reverse combination (the 2000 distribution by length of residence combined with the 1970 proportions of naturalized citizens) would have produced a decline from 63.6 percent to 55.4 percent.

Figure 7-3.
Naturalized Citizens by Region of Birth: 2000

(Percent of foreign-born population. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



[1]Total includes areas not shown separately.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 7-1.

Section 8.

Nativity, Parentage, and Foreign Stock

One-fifth of the total U.S. population is of foreign stock.

In 2000, 55.9 million, or 20.4 percent, of the population was of foreign stock (Table 8-1). In addition to a foreign-born population of 28.4 million, the native population of foreign or mixed parentage was 27.5 million (not significantly different). The population of foreign or mixed parentage included 14.8 million of foreign parentage and 12.7 million of mixed parentage. Among the population of mixed parentage, 6.8 million had a foreign-born father, and 5.9 million had a foreign-born mother.[1]

The proportion of the population of foreign stock has increased since 1970.

In 1960, 34.1 million, or 19.0 percent, of the population was of foreign stock (Figure 8-1). The population of foreign stock dropped to 33.6 million, or 16.5 percent of the population in 1970, the last year in which data on parentage were collected in the decennial census.[2] By 2000, the population of foreign stock had risen to 55.9 million, or 20.4 percent of the population, reflecting the high level of international migration since 1970.

The growth in the population of foreign stock since 1970 is due mostly to the growth in the foreign-born population. From 1970 to 2000, the foreign-born population increased by 18.8 million (from 9.6 million to 28.4 million), while the population of foreign or mixed parentage rose by only 3.5 million (from 24.0 million to 27.5 million). The slower growth in the population of foreign or mixed parentage reflects the relatively old age structure of this population in 1970, which in turn reflects the preceding decades of relatively low international migration.[3] With the attrition (through mortality) of descendants of migrants who came to the United States early in the twentieth century and with the high level of international migration during the past 30 years, the population of foreign or mixed parentage should grow more rapidly in the future.[4]

From 1960 to 2000, the population of mixed parentage increased by 2.5 million (from 10.2 million to 12.7 million).[5] The portion with foreign-born fathers increased by 0.3 million (from 6.5 million to 6.8 million), while the portion with foreign-born mothers increased by 2.1 million (from 3.8 million to 5.9 million (not significantly different from 2.5 million)).

The proportion of the population of foreign stock is below historical levels.

While the proportion of the population of foreign stock rose from 16.5 percent in 1970 to 20.4 percent in 2000, it is well below the level of the 1890 to 1930 period (Figure 8-1). The

The terms native population and foreign-born population, which were defined in Section 1, concern the nativity of the population. Information on the birthplace of parents may be used to classify the native population by parentage: native of native parentage (both parents native), native of foreign parentage (both parents foreign born), and native of mixed parentage (one parent native and one parent foreign born).

The term foreign stock includes the foreign-born population and the native population of foreign or mixed parentage. The foreign stock may thus be thought of as the combination of first and second generation U.S. residents. Just as the native population and foreign-born population comprise the total population, the native population of native parentage and the foreign-stock population also comprise the total population.

Table 8-1.
Population by Nativity and Parentage: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)

Nativity and parentage	Number (in millions)	Percent
Total population	274.1	100.0
Native	245.7	89.6
Native parentage	218.2	79.6
Foreign or mixed parentage	27.5	10.0
Foreign parentage	14.8	5.4
Mixed parentage	12.7	4.6
Father foreign born	6.8	2.5
Mother foreign born	5.9	2.2
Foreign born	28.4	10.4
Native of native parentage	218.2	79.6
Foreign stock	55.9	20.4
Foreign or mixed parentage	27.5	10.0
Foreign born	28.4	10.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 4-1A.

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proportion increased from 33.2 percent in 1890 to 35.3 percent in 1910 and then dropped back to 32.8 percent in 1930.

The relative sizes of the population of foreign or mixed parentage and the foreign-born population have fluctuated, reflecting the timing of periods of large-scale immigration and subsequent childbearing of the foreign-born population, as shown below. In 1890, when 18.4 percent of the population was native of foreign or mixed parentage and 14.8 percent of the population was foreign born, the ratio was 1.2 to 1. By 1960, the ratio had increased to 2.5 to 1.0. From 2.5 to 1.0 again in 1970, the ratio fell sharply to 1.0 to 1.0 in 2000, slightly lower than the ratio in 1890.

	1890	1960	1970	2000
Foreign or mixed parentage	18.4%	13.6%	11.8%	10.0%
Foreign born	14.8%	5.4%	4.7%	10.4%
Ratio	1.2 to 1.0	2.5 to 1.0	1.1 to 1.0	1.0 to 1.0

Among the foreign-born population, 22.3 million had parents born in the same country, and only 1.2 million had parents born in different countries. Among the population of foreign parentage, 13.0 million had parents born in the same country, and only 1.8 million had parents born in different countries.

The question on nativity or birthplace of parents, which was included in censuses from 1870 to 1970, was replaced in 1980 with a question on ancestry that was based on self-identification, with no restrictions on how many generations removed from their ancestors' country or countries of origin.

In 1970, the native population of foreign or mixed parentage had a median age of 47.3, and 16.3 percent was 65 years old and over (U.S. Census Bureau, 1973, Table 1).

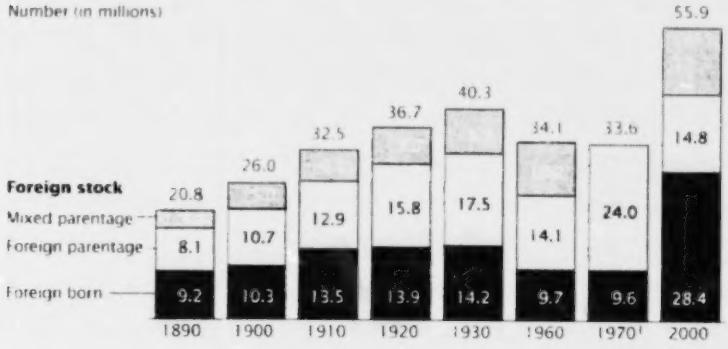
One indication of future growth is the rapid increase in the number of births in the United States to foreign-born women residing in the United States, from 223,000 (6.0 percent of total births) in 1970 to 797,300 (20.2 percent of total births) in 1999. (U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, 1975, Table 1-5, and NCHS, unpublished data 2001). These children have U.S. citizenship at birth and are part of the native population.

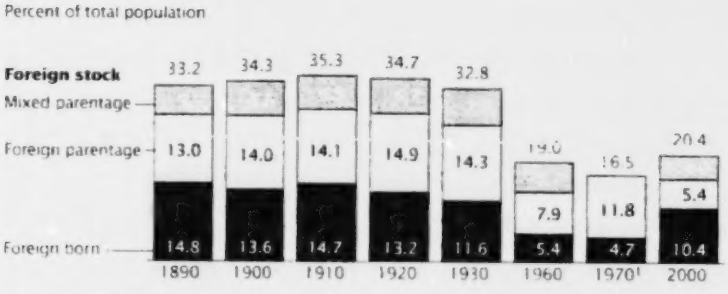
Data published from the 1970 census did not distinguish between the native populations of foreign parentage and mixed parentage.

Figure 8-1.

Foreign-Stock Population by Nativity and Parentage: Selected Years, 1890 to 2000

(For 1890-1970, resident population. For 2000, civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)





[1] Data not available separately for foreign parentage and mixed parentage.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1995a, Table 12, and 2001, Table 4-1A.

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Section 9.

Hispanic Origin and Race

Hispanics and race groups differ sharply in their percent foreign born.

In March 2000, the Current Population Survey showed 10.4 percent of the total population was foreign born (Figure 9-1).[1] The proportion was much higher among Asians and Pacific Islanders (61.4 percent) and Hispanics (39.1 percent) but lower for Blacks (6.3 percent) and for White non-Hispanics (3.6 percent).

About half of the foreign born are Hispanic.

Hispanics accounted for 12.8 million, or 45.2 percent, of the foreign-born population according to the March 2000 survey (Table 9-1). The Asian and Pacific Islander foreign-born population was 6.7 million or 23.6 percent of the total, not statistically different from the White non-Hispanic figures of 7.0 million or 24.8 percent. Blacks had the lowest number and proportion foreign born at 2.2 million people and 7.8 percent.

The foreign-born population by region of birth is not identical with race or ethnicity.

As reflected in the March 2000 Current Population Survey, the foreign-born populations from Europe, Northern America (essentially Canada), and Asia were somewhat homogeneous by race and Hispanic origin. In 2000, 96.0 percent of the foreign born from Europe and 89.1 percent of the foreign born from Northern America were White non-Hispanic. Of the foreign born from Asia, 83.7 percent were Asian and Pacific Islander (not statistically different from the proportion White non-Hispanic from Northern America), and 14.5 percent were White non-Hispanic. In contrast, the foreign-born population from Africa was very heterogeneous — no one race was dominant.

Of the foreign-born population from Latin America, 86.2 percent were Hispanic, 11.4 percent were Black, and 2.9 percent were both Black and Hispanic. The Black population from Latin America was primarily from the Caribbean

The racial categories used in this section are drawn from the March 2000 Current Population Survey and include the following: White; Black; American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut; and Asian and Pacific Islander. The ethnic categories used include Hispanic origin and not of Hispanic origin. The population in a race category may be Hispanic or not Hispanic, and the population of Hispanic origin may be of any race. There are four race or Hispanic groups identified for discussion in this section: Blacks, Asians and Pacific Islanders, Hispanics, and White non-Hispanics.

Categories of ethnicity and race are not interchangeable with the geographic regions used throughout this report. For example, the March 2000 data show 15.3 percent of the foreign born were born in Europe, however, 67.9 percent of the foreign born were White, and 24.8 percent were White non-Hispanic. These and other differences are discussed in the text.

Table 9-1.
Population by Nativity, Parentage, and Selected Race and Hispanic-Origin Groups: 2000
(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)

	Total population		Native						Foreign born		Foreign stock	
			Total		Native parentage		Foreign or mixed parentage					
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total[1]	274.1	100.0	245.7	100.0	218.2	100.0	27.5	100.0	28.4	100.0	55.9	100.0
Black	35.5	13.0	33.3	13.5	31.9	14.6	1.4	5.0	2.2	7.8	3.6	6.4
Asian and Pacific Islander	10.9	4.0	4.2	1.7	1.3	0.6	2.9	10.5	6.7	23.6	9.6	17.2
Hispanic origin (of any race)	32.8	12.0	20.0	8.1	10.6	4.9	9.3	33.9	12.8	45.2	22.2	39.7
White non-Hispanic	193.6	70.6	186.6	75.9	172.5	79.0	14.1	51.4	7.0	24.8	21.2	37.9

[1] The four race and Hispanic groups shown are not a mutually exclusive and exhaustive set of categories adding to the total. See footnote 1 in text.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 9-1A.

32 BEST COPY AVAILABLE

(78.1 percent). Of the foreign born from the Caribbean, 55.6 percent were Hispanic, 45.7 percent were Black (not statistically different), and 8.0 percent indicated they were both Black and Hispanic.

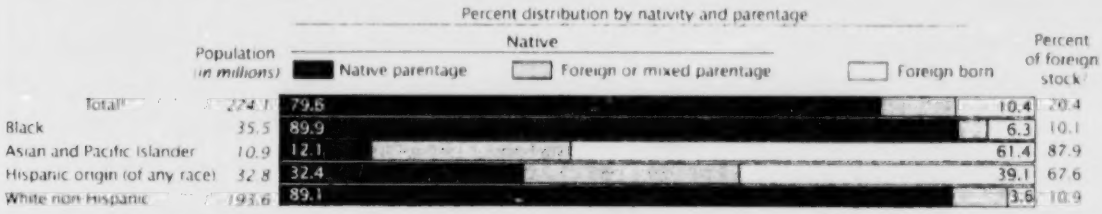
Length of residence and citizenship status differ by race and ethnicity among the foreign born.

In 2000, the median length of residence in the United States of the foreign born was 14.4 years, and 37.4 percent were naturalized citizens (Figure 9-2). White non-Hispanic foreign born had the highest rates - 21.2 median years of residence and 50.3 percent naturalized. Asian and Pacific Islander foreign born had a median length of residence of 13.6 years, and 45.7 percent reported they were naturalized citizens.[2] Foreign-born Hispanics had a median length of residence of 13.2 years (not statistically different from the median for Asians and Pacific Islanders), but only 25.7 percent were naturalized citizens.

[1] The four race and Hispanic groups discussed in this section do not represent a mutually exclusive and exhaustive set of categories adding to the total population. The populations in these four categories add to 99.6 percent of the total population. The American Indian and Alaska Native non-Hispanic population (0.9 percent of the total population) is not included, and individuals who are both Black and Asian and Pacific Islander and Hispanic (0.5 percent of the total population) are each included in two of the four categories shown. (In brief, 99.6 percent plus 0.9 percent minus 0.5 percent equals 100.0 per cent.)

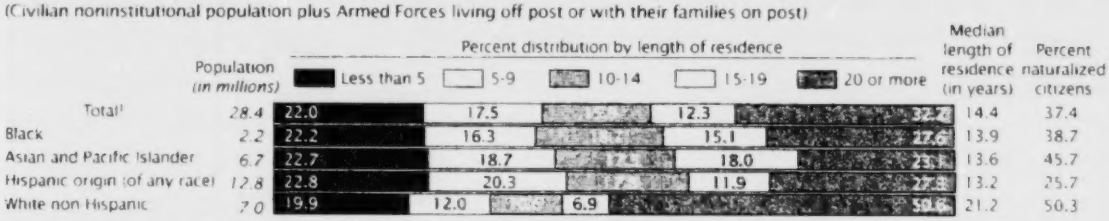
[2] The length of residence of foreign born Asians and Pacific Islanders was not significantly different from the length of residence for all foreign born people.

Figure 9-1.
Nativity and Parentage for Selected Race and Hispanic-Origin Groups: 2000
(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)


Percent distribution by nativity and parentage
Native
Population (in millions)
Native parentage
Foreign or mixed parentage
Foreign born
Percent of foreign stock[2]
Total[1] 274.1 79.6 10.4 20.4
Black 35.5 89.9 6.3 10.1
Asian and Pacific Islander 10.9 12.1 61.4 87.9
Hispanic origin (of any race) 32.8 32.4 39.1 67.6
White non-Hispanic 193.6 89.1 3.6 10.9

[1] The four race and Hispanic groups shown are not a mutually exclusive and exhaustive set of categories adding to the total. See footnote 1 in text.
[2] Includes the foreign-born population and the native population of foreign or mixed parentage. See Section 8.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000, Table 9-1A.

Figure 9-2.
Length of Residence in the United States and Citizenship Status for Selected Race and Hispanic-Origin Groups of the Foreign-Born Population: 2000
(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)


Percent distribution by length of residence
Population (in millions)
Less than 5
5-9
10-14
15-19
20 or more
Median length of residence (in years)
Percent naturalized citizens
Total[1] 28.4 22.0 17.5 12.3 32.2 14.4 37.4
Black 2.2 22.2 16.3 15.1 27.6 13.9 38.7
Asian and Pacific Islander 6.7 22.7 18.7 18.0 13.6 45.7
Hispanic origin (of any race) 12.8 22.8 20.3 11.9 13.2 25.7
White non-Hispanic 7.0 19.9 12.0 6.9 21.2 50.3

[1] The four race and Hispanic groups shown are not a mutually exclusive and exhaustive set of categories adding to the total. See footnote 1 in text.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000, Table 9-1B.

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Section 10.

Age and Sex

Three-fifths of the foreign born are 25 to 54 years of age.

In 2000, the median ages of the foreign-born population (38.1 years) and the native population (34.5 years) did not differ greatly; however, there were major differences in age distributions of the two groups (Figure 10-1). Only 10.0 percent of the foreign born were under age 18 compared with 28.3 percent of natives. In contrast, the proportion of the foreign-born population ages 25-54 was 58.7 percent, compared with 41.7 percent for the native population.[1] The proportions of the population age 55 and older were similar, 20.2 percent for the foreign born and 20.5 percent for natives.

Foreign-born naturalized citizens were older (median age 47.5) than the noncitizen foreign born (median age 33.0). The proportion age 65 and older among naturalized citizens (20.6 percent) was much higher than among the noncitizen population (5.2 percent).

As would be expected, the age structure of the foreign-born population differed greatly by length of residence in the United States. The median age ranged from 28.4 for those resident in the United States less than 10 years to 52.8 years for those resident in the United States 20 years or more. The proportions 65 and older were 3.2 percent and 25.2 percent, respectively.

The sex ratio (males per 100 females) in 2000 was higher in the foreign-born population (100.1) than in the native population (95.0). Among the foreign-born population the sex ratio was higher for noncitizens (105.7) than for naturalized citizens (91.6). The sex ratio was also higher for those whose length of residence in the United States was less than 10 years (103.2) compared with those who had lived in the United States 20 years or more (89.5).

The age structure of the foreign-born population varies by region of birth.

The resurgence of U.S. international migration between 1970 and 2000 resulted in a younger foreign-born population at the end of the period. Due to an influx of young adults, the median age of the foreign-born population declined from 52.0 in 1970 to 38.1 in 2000 (Figure 10-3). In contrast, the entire U.S. population continued to grow older with its median age rising from 28.1 in 1970 to 35.1 in 2000.

In 2000, the median age of the foreign-born population ranged from 50.0 for Europe, to 39.2 for Asia and 35.3 for Latin America (Figure 10-2). The proportions age 25 to 54 from Asia (61.3 percent) and Latin America (60.9 percent) were much higher than the proportions from Europe (45.8 percent).[2] Similarly, the proportions age 65 and older from Latin America (6.7 percent) and Asia (9.5 percent) were much lower than the proportion for Europe (27.6 percent). The differences in age structure by region of birth reflect differences in the timing of international migration.

The foreign-stock population was younger in 2000.

The addition of millions of young foreign-born adults also led to a subsequent increase in the number of children, most of them natives at birth.[3] Figures 10-4 and 10-5 show the effects on the age-sex structure of four decades of low international migration prior to 1970 followed by three decades of large-scale international migration.

In 1970, 20.8 percent of the foreign-stock population was age 65 and older compared with 7.7 percent of the native population of native parentage. On the other hand, 51.0 percent of the native population of native parentage was under age 25 (most of them baby boomers born between 1946 and 1964), compared with 20.2 percent of the foreign stock.

As a result of their older age distribution, the foreign stock in 1970 made up 34.7 percent of the population age 65 and older and 7.3 percent of the population under age 25. By 2000, the proportions of foreign stock in these two age groups had changed to 26.5 percent and 21.0 percent, respectively. About two-thirds (72.5 percent) of the foreign-stock population ages 25-54 in 2000 were foreign born compared with about one-third (34.7 percent) in 1970.

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[1] The 25 to 54 age group is important for labor force analysis because three factors are optimal: Most are full-time workers; most have completed schooling, and most are not eligible to retire. See Section 15.

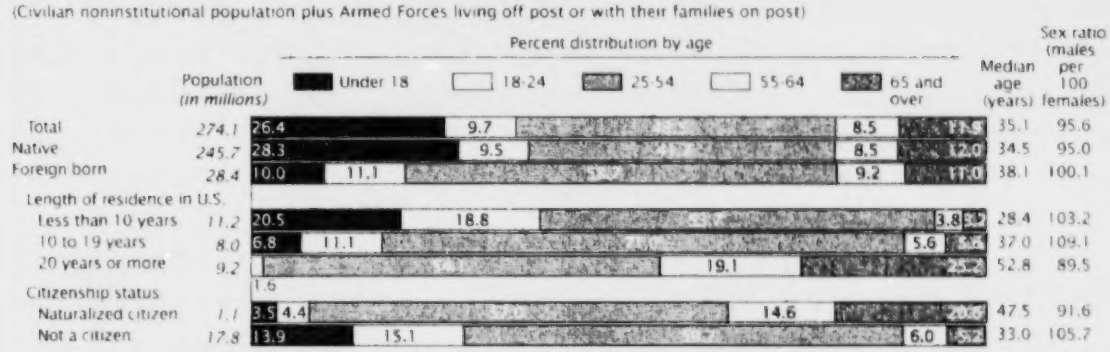
[2] There is no statistical difference between the proportions for Asia and Latin America.

[3] For a discussion of the concept of foreign stock, see Section 8. See Section 13 for a discussion of the children of the foreign born.

Figure 10-1.

Age and Sex of the Population by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



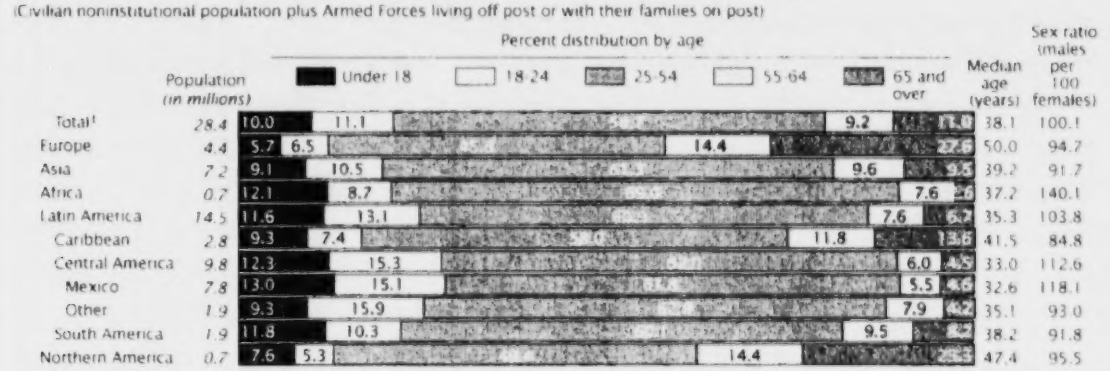
	Population (in millions)	Under 18	18-24	25-54	55-64	65 and over	Median age (years)	Sex ratio (males per 100 females)
Total	274.1	26.4	9.7	35.3	8.5	12.6	35.1	95.6
Native	245.7	28.3	9.5	35.0	8.5	12.0	34.5	95.0
Foreign born	28.4	10.0	11.1	35.6	9.2	11.0	38.1	100.1
Length of residence in U.S.								
Less than 10 years	11.2	20.5	18.8	36.8	3.8	2.2	28.4	103.2
10 to 19 years	8.0	6.8	11.1	49.8	5.6	6.8	37.0	109.1
20 years or more	9.2	1.6	1.9	19.1	25.2	52.2	52.8	89.5
Citizenship status								
Naturalized citizen	11.1	3.5	4.4	46.6	14.6	30.9	47.5	91.6
Not a citizen	17.8	13.9	15.1	51.9	6.0	13.2	33.0	105.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 10-1A, 10-1B, and 10-1C.

Figure 10-2.

Age and Sex of the Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



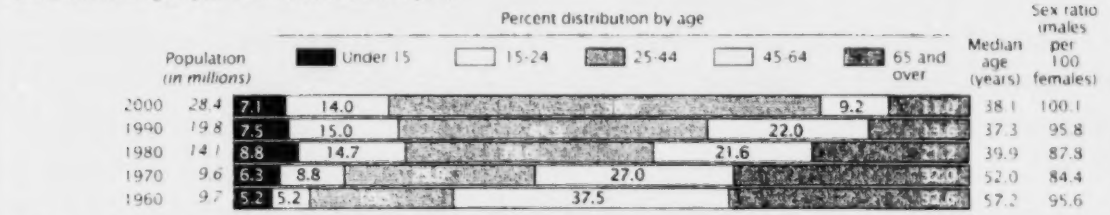
	Population (in millions)	Under 18	18-24	25-54	55-64	65 and over	Median age (years)	Sex ratio (males per 100 females)
Total[1]	28.4	10.0	11.1	35.6	9.2	11.0	38.1	100.1
Europe	4.4	5.7	6.5	32.3	14.4	27.6	50.0	94.7
Asia	7.2	9.1	10.5	43.6	9.6	9.5	39.2	91.7
Africa	0.7	12.1	8.7	43.8	7.6	2.6	37.2	140.1
Latin America	14.5	11.6	13.1	40.2	7.6	6.7	35.3	103.8
Caribbean	2.8	9.3	7.4	30.0	11.8	13.6	41.5	84.8
Central America	9.8	12.3	15.3	43.1	6.0	4.5	33.0	112.6
Mexico	7.8	13.0	15.1	43.6	5.5	4.6	32.6	118.1
Other	1.9	9.3	15.9	42.8	7.9	4.2	35.1	93.0
South America	1.9	11.8	10.3	44.2	9.5	4.2	38.2	91.8
Northern America	0.7	7.6	5.3	53.8	14.4	18.8	47.4	95.5

[1] Total includes areas not shown separately.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 10-1D.

Figure 10-3.

Age and Sex of the Foreign-Born Population: 1960 to 2000

(For 1960-90, resident population. For 2000, civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



	Population (in millions)	Under 15	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	Median age (years)	Sex ratio (males per 100 females)
2000	28.4	7.1	14.0	35.3	9.2	11.0	38.1	100.1
1990	19.8	7.5	15.0	22.0	13.8	13.8	37.3	95.8
1980	14.1	8.8	14.7	21.6	21.2	13.8	39.9	87.8
1970	9.6	6.3	8.8	27.0	32.0	25.9	52.0	84.4
1960	9.7	5.2	5.2	37.5	32.6	19.5	57.2	95.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table Z, and 1999b, Tables 10-1A and 10-2A.

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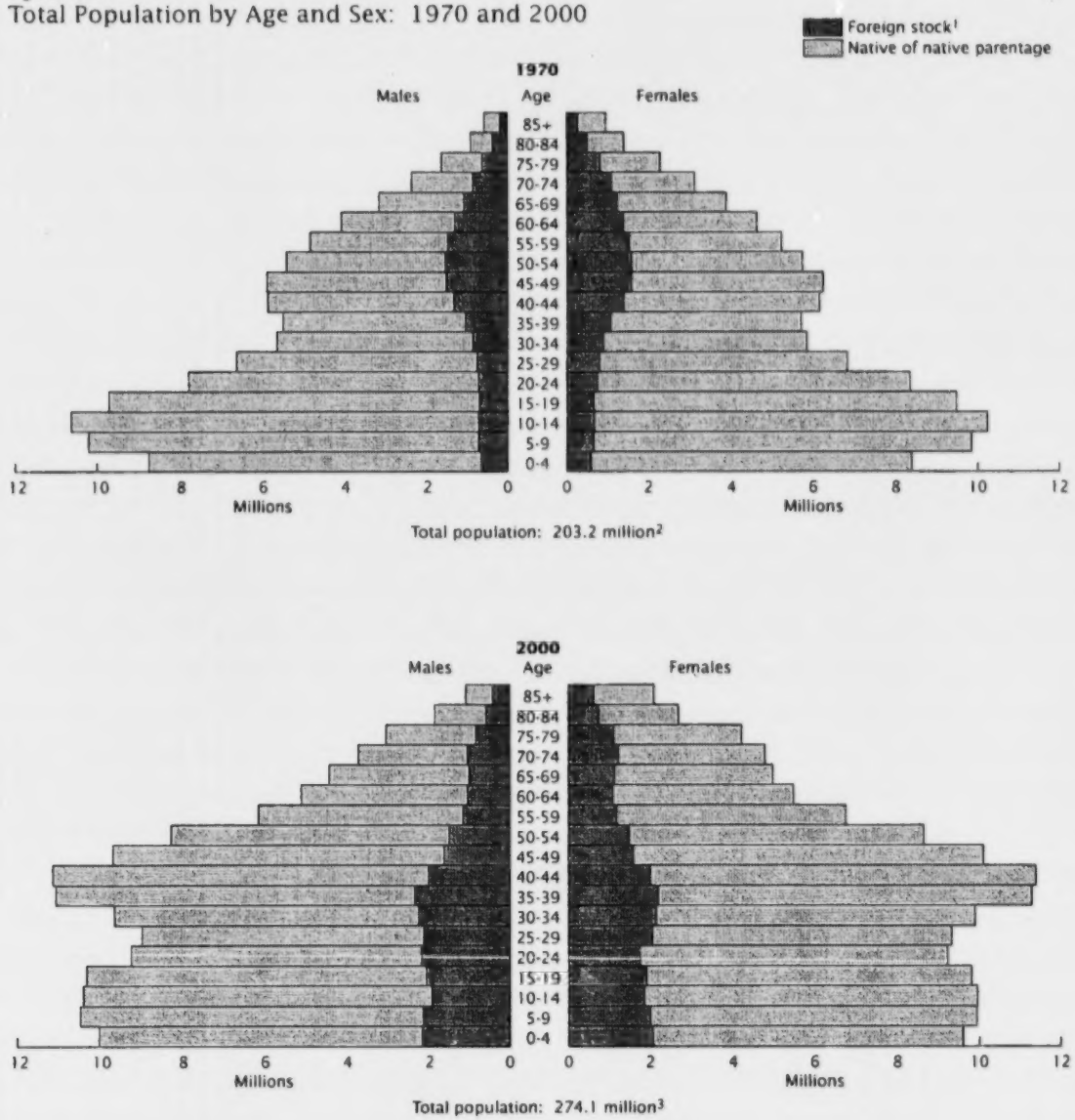
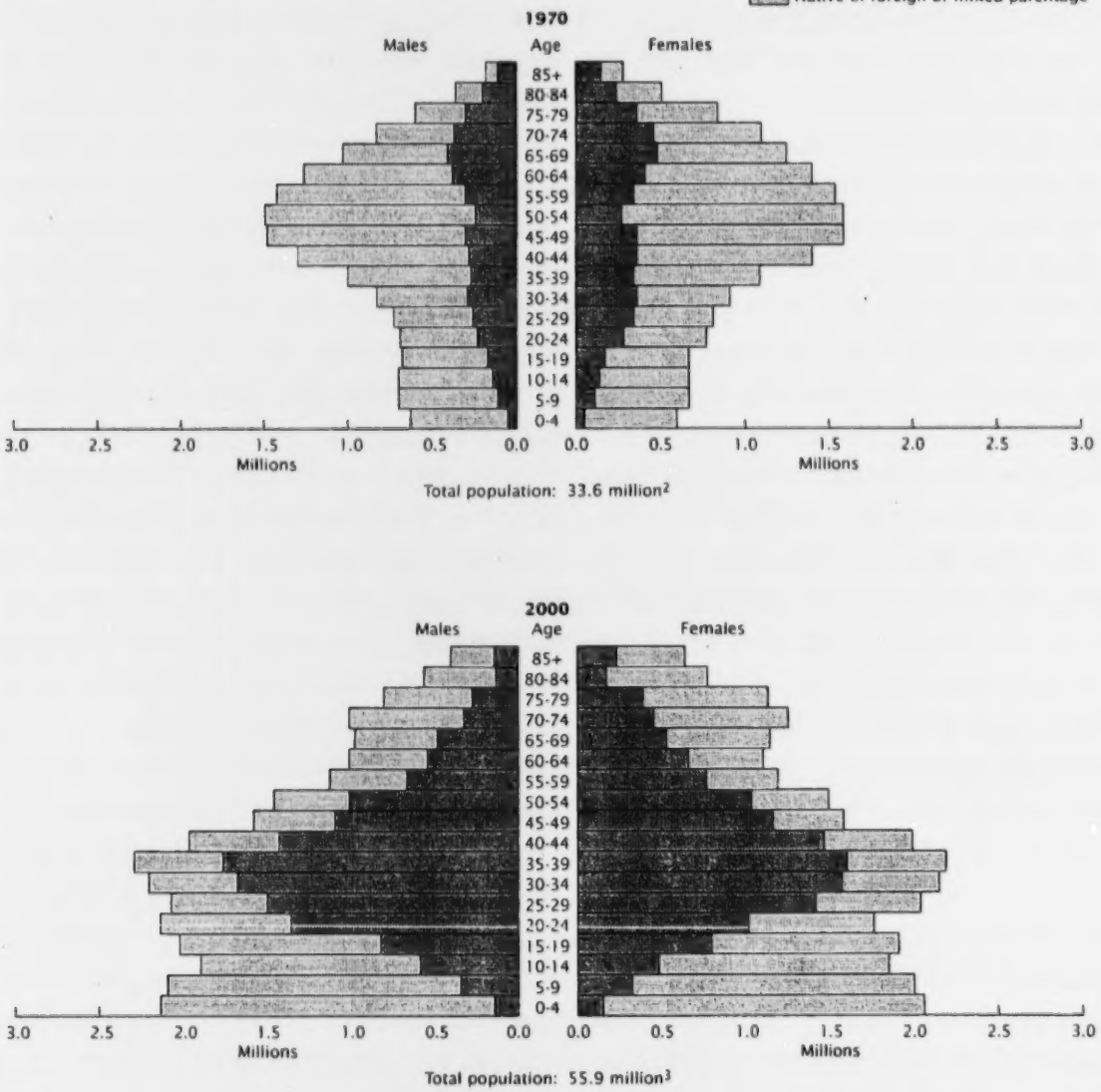
Figure 10-4.
Total Population by Age and Sex: 1970 and 2000



[1]Foreign born plus natives of foreign or mixed parentage. See Section 8 for definition.
[2]Resident population.
[3]Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with families on post.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau: 1973, Table 1; 2001, Table 10-1A.

Figure 10-5.
Foreign-Stock[1] Population by Age and Sex: 1970 and 2000



[1]Foreign born plus natives of foreign or mixed parentage. See Section 8 for definition.
[2]Resident population.
[3]Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with families on post.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau: 1973, Table 1; 2001, Table 10-1A.

Section 11.

Household Size and Type

On average, foreign-born households are larger than native households.

In 2000, 11.6 million, or 11.1 percent, of the 104.7 million households in the United States had a foreign-born householder (Figure 11-1). The average foreign-born household (3.26) was larger than the average native household (2.54). Foreign-born households also had a larger average number of children under 18 (0.99 versus 0.65). Among households with a foreign-born householder, average household size was largest where length of residence in the United States was 10 to 19 years (3.70). Average household size was also larger where the householder was not a citizen (3.44).

The foreign-born proportion of households (11.1 percent) exceeds the foreign-born proportion of the total population (10.4 percent), even though average household size is larger among foreign-born households than among native households. This apparent contradiction occurs because household nativity is based on the nativity of the householder. A substantial proportion of members of foreign-born households, especially children, are native (with U.S. citizenship at birth) rather than foreign born.

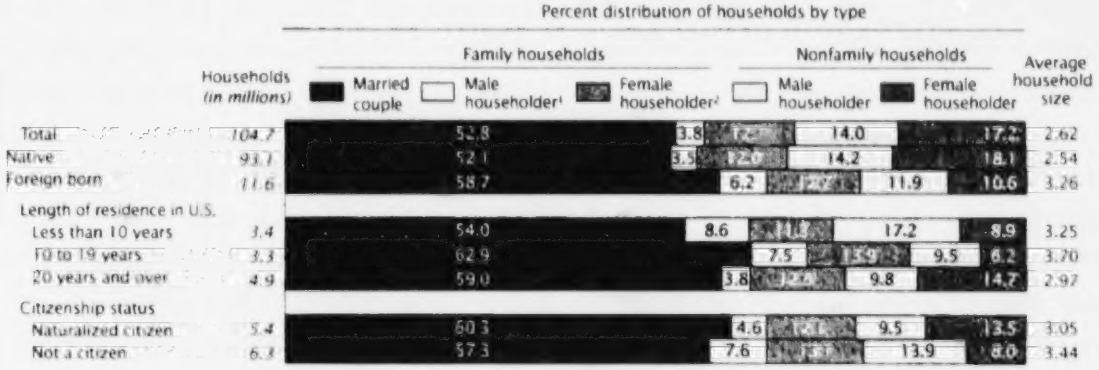
A household is a person or group of people who occupy a housing unit. The householder is usually the household member or one of the household members in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented. A family is made up of two or more people living together who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption, one of who is the householder.

Households are classified as foreign born or native based on the nativity of the householder, regardless of the nativity of other household members. For simplicity, a household with a native householder is referred to as a native household, and a household with a foreign-born householder is referred to as a foreign-born household.

One-third of the members of foreign-born households are native.

The average size of native households (2.54) in 2000 included 2.50 native members and only 0.03 foreign-born members. The average size of foreign-born households (3.26) included 2.18 foreign-born members and 1.08 native members. Native members thus represented 33.1 percent of all members of foreign-born households. In absolute numbers, 12.6 million natives lived in the 11.6 million foreign-born

Figure 11-1.
Households by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status of the Householder: 2000
(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)


Percent distribution of households by type
Family households
Nonfamily households
Households (in millions)
Married couple
Male householder[1]
Female householder[2]
Male householder
Female householder
Average household size
Total 104.7 52.8 3.8 14.0 17.2 2.62
Native 93.1 52.1 3.5 14.2 18.1 2.54
Foreign born 11.6 58.7 6.2 11.9 10.6 3.26
Length of residence in U.S.
Less than 10 years 3.4 54.0 8.6 17.2 8.9 3.25
10 to 19 years 3.3 62.9 7.5 9.5 6.2 3.70
20 years and over 4.9 59.0 3.8 9.8 14.7 2.97
Citizenship status
Naturalized citizen 5.4 60.3 4.6 9.5 13.5 3.05
Not a citizen 6.3 57.3 7.6 13.9 8.0 3.44

[1] Male householder, no spouse present. [2] Female householder, no spouse present.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 11-1A.

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households in 2000 compared with only 3.0 million foreign born living in the 93.1 million native households.

The distribution of households by size differs sharply between foreign-born and native households. Among foreign-born households, about the same proportion had one member (17.7 percent) as had five or more members (21.0 percent). Among native households, 26.5 percent had one member and only 9.0 percent had five or more members.

Family households, which include married-couple families, male-householder families (no wife present), and female-householder families (no husband present), represented 77.6 percent of foreign-born households, compared with 67.7 percent of native households in 2000. Married-couple families, which generally have the highest average number of members among the different household types, represented 58.7 percent of foreign-born households versus 52.1 percent of native households.

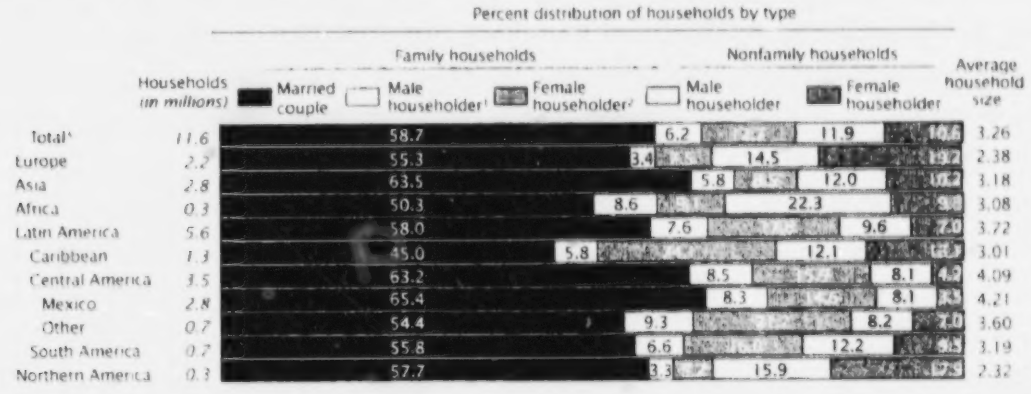
Household size varies by region of birth of the householder.

Of the 11.6 million households in 2000 with a foreign-born householder, 5.6 million, or 48.0 percent, of the householders were from Latin America (Figure 11-2). An additional 2.8 million householders were from Asia, and 2.2 million were from Europe. Average household size among these foreign-born households ranged from 3.72 with householders from Latin America to 2.32 with householders from Northern America (essentially Canada).[1] Average household size among foreign-born households with householders from Mexico was 4.21 compared with 3.26 for all foreign-born households. The higher figure for households with a householder from Mexico reflects a higher proportion of married-couple families (65.4 percent versus 58.7 percent for all foreign-born households) and a lower proportion of householders age 65 and older (6.6 percent versus 14.4 percent).[2]

[1] The average household size for householders from Northern America was not significantly different from that of householders from Europe.

[2] Elderly householders are less likely to have children still living at home. Data on fertility from the 1990 census show that among women 35 to 44 years old, the average numbers of children ever born were 2.1 for all foreign-born women and 3.1 for foreign-born women from Mexico (U.S. Census Bureau, 1993a, Table 1).

Figure 11-2.
Foreign Born Households by Region of Birth of the Householder: 2000
(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)


Percent distribution of households by type
Family households
Nonfamily households
Households (in millions)
Married couple
Male householder[1]
Female householder[2]
Male householder
Female householder
Average household size
Total[3] 11.6 58.7 6.2 11.9 3.26
Europe 2.2 55.3 3.4 14.5 2.38
Asia 2.8 63.5 5.8 12.0 3.18
Africa 0.3 50.3 8.6 22.3 3.08
Latin America 5.6 58.0 7.6 9.6 3.72
Caribbean 1.3 45.0 5.8 12.1 3.01
Central America 3.5 63.2 8.5 8.1 4.09
Mexico 2.8 65.4 8.3 8.1 4.21
Other 0.7 54.4 9.3 8.2 3.60
South America 0.7 55.8 6.6 12.2 3.19
Northern America 0.3 57.7 3.3 15.9 2.32

[1] Male householder, no wife present. [2] Female householder, no husband present. [3] Includes areas not shown separately.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 11-D.

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Section 12.

Families and Related Children

Family size differs between foreign-born and native families.

In 2000, 9.0 million, or 12.5 percent, of the 72.0 million family households in the United States had a foreign-born householder (Figure 12-1). The average size of foreign-born families was 3.72 compared with 3.10 for native families. Foreign-born families had larger average numbers both of adults (age 18 and older), 2.47 versus 2.15, and of children (under age 18), 1.25 versus 0.94.

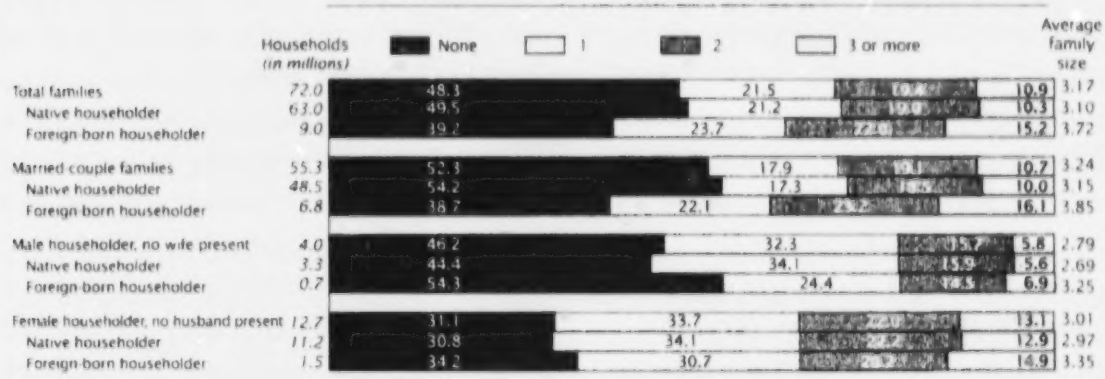
Of the 9.0 million families in 2000 with a foreign-born householder, 6.8 million were married-couple families, 1.5 million were families with a female householder (no husband present), and 0.7 million were families with a male householder (no wife present). Of the 63.0 million families with native householders, 48.5 million were married-couple families, 11.2 million were female householder families, and 3.3 million were male householder families. Married-couple families represented 75.6 percent of all foreign-born families and 77.0 percent of all native families, not significantly different from each other. Average family size was 3.85 for married-couple families with a foreign-born householder and 3.15 for their native householder counterparts.

A family is made up of two or more people living together who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption, one of whom is the householder. Related children are children under age 18 living in the household and related to the householder such as own children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Families are classified as foreign born or native based on the nativity of the householder, regardless of the nativity of other family members. For simplicity, a family with a native householder is referred to as a native family, and a family with a foreign-born householder is referred to as a foreign-born family.

Three-fifths of married-couple families with a foreign-born householder have one or more related children.

Among married-couple families in 2000, 61.3 percent of those with a foreign-born householder had one or more related children

Figure 12-1.
Families by Type, Nativity of Householder, and Number of Related Children: 2000
(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)


Percent distribution of families by number of related children under 18 years old
Households (in millions)
None
1
2
3 or more
Average family size
Total families 72.0 48.3 21.5 10.9 3.17
Native householder 63.0 49.5 21.2 10.3 3.10
Foreign-born householder 9.0 39.2 23.7 15.2 3.72
Married-couple families 55.3 52.3 17.9 10.7 3.24
Native householder 48.5 54.2 17.3 10.0 3.15
Foreign-born householder 6.8 38.7 22.1 16.1 3.85
Male householder, no wife present 4.0 46.2 32.3 15.7 5.8 2.79
Native householder 3.3 44.4 34.1 15.9 5.6 2.69
Foreign-born householder 0.7 54.3 24.4 14.5 6.9 3.25
Female householder, no husband present 12.7 31.1 33.7 22.0 13.1 3.01
Native householder 11.2 30.8 34.1 22.2 12.9 2.97
Foreign-born householder 1.5 34.2 30.7 20.2 14.9 3.35

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 12-1A

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under age 18 compared with 45.8 percent of those with a native householder (Figure 12-1). The proportions for married-couple foreign-born families were higher than for married-couple native families with one or two children (45.2 percent versus 35.8 percent) and with three or more children (16.1 percent versus 10.0 percent).

Among the 1.5 million foreign-born families with a female householder (no husband present), 14.9 percent had three or more related children, not statistically different from 12.9 percent among the 11.2 million native families with a female householder.

Nearly 1 of 6 married-couple families includes at least one foreign-born spouse.

Of the 55.3 million married-couple families in 2000, 8.7 million, or 15.7 percent, included at least one foreign-born spouse (Figure 12-2). The average size (3.95) of these families was largest in the 5.5 million families in which both spouses were foreign born.

The average size of married-couple families with both spouses foreign born (3.95) included 2.79 foreign-born members and 1.16 native members. Native members thus represented 29.3 percent of all members of these families. For married-couple families with husband foreign born and wife native, 67.7 percent of family members were native, not significantly different from the 66.0 percent of family members who were native in married-couple families with spouses' nativities reversed (husband native and wife foreign born). In married-couple families with both spouses native, virtually all members were native; only 0.1 percent were foreign born.

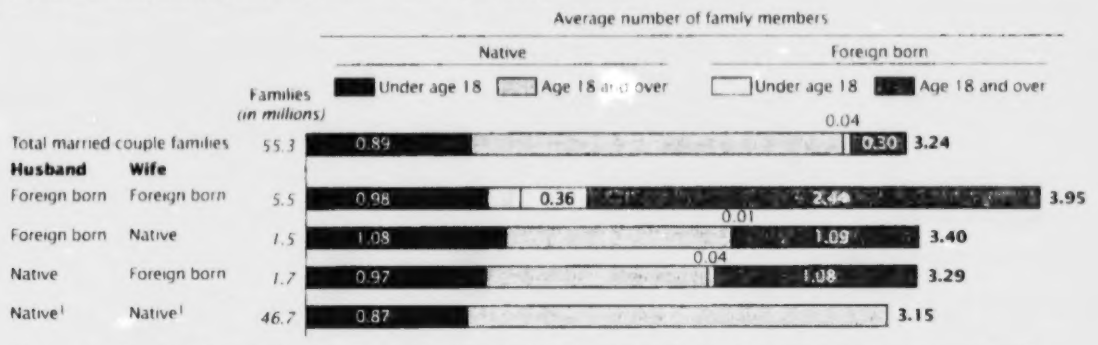
One quarter of married-couple families with a householder from Latin America had three or more related children.

In 2000, 61.3 percent of married-couple families with a foreign-born householder had one or more related children under age 18. The proportion ranged from 35.0 percent with householders from Europe to 73.4 percent with householders from Latin America. Among married-couple families with householders from Mexico, the proportion was 80.4 percent.

While 16.1 percent of all married-couple families with a foreign born householder had three or more related children, the proportion ranged from 5.1 percent with householders from Europe to 24.4 percent with householders from Latin America. Among married-couple families with householders from Mexico, 31.9 percent had three or more related children.

Figure 12-2.
Married-Couple Families by Nativity of Spouses and Nativity and Age of Related Household Members: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



[1]The proportion of foreign-born family members in married couple households where both spouses are native appears to be negligible. Due to sample size the number cannot be determined.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000b, Table 12-4

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Section 13.

Children Living With Foreign-Born Householders

Nearly 1 in 6 children lives with a foreign-born householder, and most of these children are native.

In March 2000, 72.1 million children (under age 18) lived in households.[1] Of the 11.5 million children living in households with a foreign-born householder, 8.9 million, or 77.7 percent, were native, and 2.6 million were foreign born (Table 13.1).[2] The remaining children in households (60.6 million) lived with a native householder. Nearly all of the children living with native householders were native (60.4 million, or 99.6 percent), but a small number (240,000) were foreign born.[3]

Children of the foreign born may be either native or foreign born. Native children are those who were born in the United States or one of its Island Areas such as Puerto Rico, or who were born abroad to a U.S. citizen parent. Foreign born children are those who were born abroad to parents who were not U.S. citizens. For further information see Section 8 and Appendix A.

The vast majority of children living in households with a foreign-born householder are related to the householder.

In March 2000, 98.9 percent of the 72.1 million children under age 18 lived in family households. Among the 11.4 million children living in family households with a foreign-born householder, 98.7 percent were related to the householder, and 1.3 percent were unrelated. (Figure 13.1).[4] The majority of these children were the householder's own child (89.4 percent), but some were other relatives of the householder, such as grandchildren, nephews, or nieces (9.3 percent). Within foreign-born family households, similar proportions of both foreign-born and native children were the householder's own child.

For children in family households with a native householder, 91.5 percent were the householder's own child, and an additional 7.4 percent were other relatives of the householder. The remaining 1.1 percent were not related to the householder.

Children living in foreign-born households are younger than children in native households.

Preschool age children, or those less than 6 years old, represented 35.3 percent of children living in households with a foreign-born householder, compared with 32.2 percent of children living in households with a native householder.

Among children in foreign born households, a major difference existed in the age structure of native and foreign-born children: 41.6 percent of native children living with foreign born householders were under the age of 6, compared with only 13.5 percent of foreign-born children.[5]

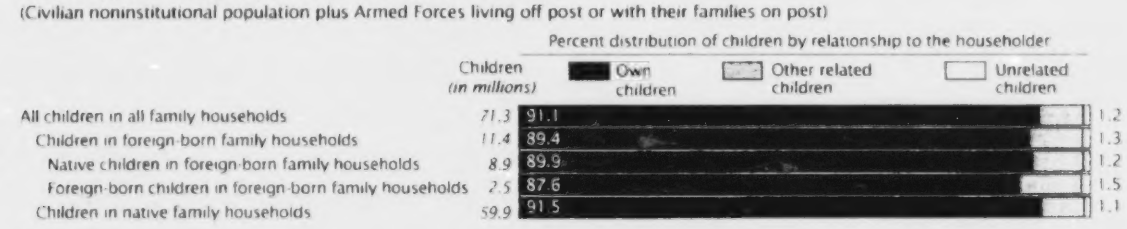
Children of the foreign born are more likely to live in poverty.

As discussed in Section 19, children living in a family with a foreign born householder were more likely to be living in poverty. For example, the poverty rate for related children under age 18 in families living with foreign-born householders was 24.0 percent (2.7 million of 11.2 million),

Figure 13.1.

Children Under Age 18 in Family Households by Relationship to Householder, Nativity, and Nativity of Householder: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)


Percent distribution of children by relationship to the householder
Children (in millions)
Own children
Other related children
Unrelated children
All children in all family households 71.3 91.1 1.2
Children in foreign-born family households 11.4 89.4 1.3
Native children in foreign-born family households 8.9 89.9 1.2
Foreign-born children in foreign-born family households 2.5 87.6 1.5
Children in native family households 59.9 91.5 1.1

Source: Table 13.1.

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compared with 14.9 percent for children living in families with native householders.[6] Families with three or more related children living with a foreign-born householder had a much higher rate of poverty (32.8 percent) than families with three or more children living with a native householder (20.6 percent).

[1] The child population in this section excludes the very small number of people under age 18 in households who were a householder or the spouse of a householder. See also, Section 12.

[4] For the definition of nativity, see the text box.
[5] There is no statistical difference between 60.6 million and 60.4 million.
[6] Related by birth, marriage, or adoption.
[7] This difference reflects the fact that children born in the United States are classified as native, regardless of the birthplace or citizenship status of either parent.
[8] Poverty is calculated for the related child population under age 18 living in family households.

Table 13-1.
Native and Foreign-Born Children Under Age 18 Living in Households and Families by Nativity of Householder: 2000

(Numbers in thousands)

Item	All children		Native children		Foreign-born children		
	Total	Under age 6	Total	Under age 6	Total	Under age 6	Percent of all children
ALL HOUSEHOLDS							
Total	72,116	23,574	69,317	23,161	2,799	413	3.9
In family households	71,291	23,324	68,529	22,919	2,761	406	3.9
In families	70,469	23,099	67,764	22,698	2,705	401	3.8
Own child	64,965	20,784	62,560	20,435	2,405	348	3.7
Other related child	5,504	2,316	5,204	2,263	299	53	5.4
Not in families	822	225	765	220	56	5	6.8
Not in family households	825	250	788	243	38	8	4.6
Related child	70,469	23,099	67,764	22,698	2,705	401	3.8
Unrelated child	1,647	475	1,553	463	94	13	5.7
NATIVE HOUSEHOLDS							
Total	60,638	19,518	60,398	19,450	240	68	0.4
In family households	59,901	19,307	59,664	19,239	238	68	0.4
In families	59,226	19,139	59,008	19,071	218	68	0.4
Own child	54,785	17,320	54,590	17,252	195	68	0.4
Other related child	4,442	1,819	4,418	1,819	24	-	0.5
Not in families	675	168	656	168	19	-	2.8
Not in family households	737	211	734	211	3	-	0.4
Related child	59,226	19,139	59,008	19,071	218	68	0.4
Unrelated child	1,412	379	1,390	379	22	-	1.6
FOREIGN-BORN HOUSEHOLDS							
Total	11,478	4,056	8,919	3,711	2,558	345	22.3
In family households	11,389	4,018	8,866	3,680	2,523	338	22.2
In families	11,242	3,960	8,756	3,627	2,486	333	22.1
Own child	10,180	3,464	7,970	3,184	2,211	280	21.7
Other related child	1,062	496	787	444	275	53	25.9
Not in families	147	58	110	53	37	5	25.2
Not in family households	88	39	53	31	35	8	39.8
Related child	11,242	3,960	8,756	3,627	2,486	333	22.1
Unrelated child	235	97	163	84	72	13	30.6

- Represents zero.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March 2000.

Section 14.

Educational Attainment

Educational levels among the foreign-born and native populations differ only below the college level.

In 2000, the proportion of the population age 25 and older who had completed high school or more education was lower among the foreign-born population (67.0 percent) than among the native population (86.6 percent) (Figure 14-1). Among the foreign born, 76.2 percent of the naturalized citizens compared with 59.8 percent for those who were not citizens had completed high school.

The difference between the foreign born (67.0 percent) and native (86.6 percent) educational rates of high school completion and beyond was confined to the proportions who were high school graduates only or who had some college but less than a bachelor's degree. The proportion with a bachelor's degree or more education was 26.0 percent for both the foreign-born and native populations. A small difference existed in the proportion of the foreign-born and native population with a graduate degree (9.7 percent and 8.4 percent, respectively).

Among individuals with less than a high school education (33.0 percent for the foreign-born population and 13.4 percent for the native population), the distributions by educational attainment differed sharply. Among the foreign-born population, the proportions with less than a 5th grade education, a 5th to 8th grade education, and a 9th to 11th grade education were 7.2 percent, 15.0 percent, and 10.8 percent, respectively. The corresponding figures for the native population were 0.7 percent, 4.0 percent, and 8.7 percent. Among individuals with less than a high school education, those with less than a 5th grade education represented about 1 in 5 of the foreign-born, but only about 1 in 20 of the native population.

College education levels differ by sex.

Educational distributions by sex differed somewhat among the foreign-born population. The proportion of the foreign-born population age 25 years and older who had completed high school or more education was about 67.0 percent for men and for women; however, the proportion with a bachelor's degree or more education was higher for men (28.6 percent) than for women (23.1 percent). This difference was mostly among the proportions with a graduate degree or higher: 12.6 percent for men and 6.8 percent for women.

For the native population, 86.7 percent of men and 86.5 percent of women (not statistically different) age 25 and older had completed high school or more education. The proportion with a bachelor's degree or more education was higher for men (27.7 percent) than for women (23.6 percent). The proportion with a graduate degree

Figure 14-1.
Educational Attainment of the Population Age 25 and Older by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)

	Population (in millions)	Percent of total: Less than high school graduate	High school graduate	Some college, less than bachelor's degree	Bachelor's degree or more	Percent high school graduate or more
Total	175.2	15.9	33.1	25.4	25.6	84.4
Native	152.8	13.4	34.3	26.7	25.6	86.6
Foreign born	22.4	33.0	25.0	16.2	25.8	67.0
Length of residence in U.S.						
Less than 10 years	6.8	33.0	24.0	14.0	29.0	67.0
10 to 19 years	6.6	35.5	26.4	15.1	23.0	64.5
20 years or more	9.0	31.3	24.7	18.6	25.4	68.7
Citizenship status						
Naturalized citizen	9.8	23.8	26.4	19.1	30.7	76.2
Not a citizen	12.6	40.2	23.9	13.5	22.0	59.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 14.1A, 14.1B, and 14.1C.

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was also higher for men (9.6 percent) than for women (7.3 percent).[1]

Educational differences exist among the population ages 25 to 34 years.

Among adults, educational attainment often differs by age.[2] Because of this, it is useful to limit the comparison of educational attainment to the population ages 25 to 34, the youngest age group in which a large share of individuals had completed their formal education.[3]

In 2000, the proportion ages 25 to 34 that had completed high school or more education was lower among the foreign-born population (68.3 percent) than among the native population (92.0 percent). The proportion with a bachelor's degree or more education was 24.6 percent for the foreign-born population and 30.2 percent for the native population. Conversely, the proportions of the population with less than a 5th grade education were 3.9 percent for the foreign born and 0.2 percent for the natives.

Most African foreign born have completed high school.

Among the population age 25 and older in 2000, 94.9 percent of the foreign born from Africa had completed high school or more education (Figure 14.2). The high school completion rates for the foreign born from Europe (81.3 percent), Asia (83.8 percent), Northern America (85.5 percent), and South America (79.6 percent) were not statistically different from each other, but they were all well above the foreign born average of 67.0 percent. The Latin American average was much lower (49.6 percent).

Within the Latin American foreign-born population, South America registered the highest proportion of high school completions (79.6 percent) while Mexico had the lowest (33.8 percent). Of the foreign-born population age 25 and older from Mexico, 66.2 percent had less than a high school education. Those with less than a 5th grade education comprised 16.5 percent of the Mexican-born population, 31.9 percent had a 5th to 8th grade education, and 17.9 percent had a 9th to 11th grade education, not statistically different from the proportion with less than a 5th grade education. The median educational level of the foreign-born population from Mexico was about 8th grade.

---

[1] There is no statistical difference in the proportions of foreign born and native women with a bachelor's degree or more education (23.1 percent compared with 23.6 percent) or with graduate degrees (6.8 percent compared with 7.3 percent). Similarly, there is no statistical difference in the proportions of foreign born and native men with a bachelor's degree or more education (28.6 percent compared with 27.7 percent).

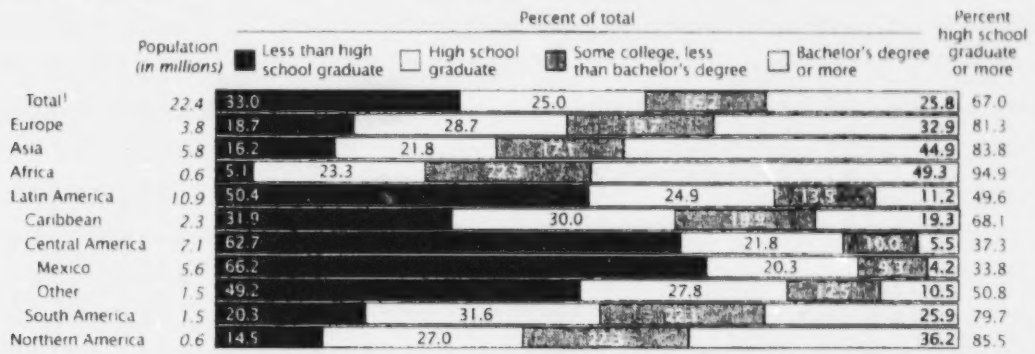
[2] For an in-depth discussion of the age distribution of the foreign-born and native populations, see Section 10.

[3] The discussion of education levels for the population 25 to 34 years old is limited to a comparison of foreign-born and native populations. The sample is not large enough to identify small, but substantively important, differences between foreign-born men and women in the 25 to 34 age group.

Figure 14-2.

Educational Attainment of the Foreign-Born Population Age 25 and Older by Region of Birth: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)


Percent of total
Population (in millions)
Less than high school graduate
High school graduate
Some college, less than bachelor's degree
Bachelor's degree or more
Percent high school graduate or more
Total[1] 22.4 33.0 25.0 16.2 25.8 67.0
Europe 3.8 18.7 28.7 19.7 32.9 81.3
Asia 5.8 16.2 21.8 17.1 44.9 83.8
Africa 0.6 5.1 23.3 22.3 49.3 94.9
Latin America 10.9 50.4 24.9 13.5 11.2 49.6
Caribbean 2.3 31.9 30.0 18.9 19.3 68.1
Central America 7.1 62.7 21.8 10.0 5.5 37.3
Mexico 5.6 66.2 20.3 9.3 4.2 33.8
Other 1.5 49.2 27.8 12.5 10.5 50.8
South America 1.5 20.3 31.6 23.1 25.9 79.7
Northern America 0.6 14.5 27.0 22.5 36.2 85.5

[1] Total includes areas not shown separately.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 14-1D.

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Section 15.

Labor Force Participation

The foreign-born population accounts for 12.4 percent of the civilian labor force.

In March 2000, the foreign-born population accounted for 17.4 million, or 12.4 percent, of the total civilian labor force of 140.5 million.[1] The labor force participation rate of the foreign-born population was 66.6 percent, not significantly different from 67.3 percent for the native population.

The civilian labor force is the civilian noninstitutional population age 16 years and older who are employed (have a job) or who are unemployed (without a job, available for work, and actively seeking work or on layoff). The labor force participation rate is the proportion of the civilian population 16 years old and older in the labor force. The unemployment rate is the proportion of the civilian labor force that is unemployed.

The patterns of labor force participation rates by sex differ between the foreign-born and native populations.

The labor force participation rate in 2000 was higher for foreign-born men (79.6 percent) than for native men (73.4 percent), as shown in Figure 15-1. The difference is due primarily to differences in age structure and not to differences in age-specific labor force participation rates. Men 25 to 54 years old, who had the highest participation rates, represented 64.6 percent of foreign-born males 16 years old and older, compared with 56.7 percent of native males 16 years old and older. Men 65 years old and older, who had the lowest participation rates, represented 10.4 percent of foreign-born males 16 years old and older, compared with 14.3 percent of native males 16 years old and over. For men 25 to 54 years old the labor force rates by nativity were statistically different, but the differences were very small. For men 65 years old and older, the labor force participation rates by nativity were virtually equal.

For women, the labor force participation rate was lower among the foreign-born population (53.7 percent) than among the native population (61.6 percent). In contrast to males, the difference for females was due to differences in age-specific labor force participation rates and not to differences in age structure. In the 25-to-54 age group, which accounts for most of the labor force, the participation rates were 66.5 percent for foreign-born women and 79.4 percent for native women.

Labor force participation rates for foreign-born women 25 to 54 years old differ sharply by citizenship status.

Among foreign-born men, labor force participation rates in the 25-to-54 age group did not differ greatly by length of residence in the United States (Figure 15-2). Among foreign-born women, the labor force participation rate was lowest for those with length of residence less than 10 years (56.1 percent), and it was lower among those who were not citizens (60.1 percent) than among those who were naturalized citizens (77.4 percent).

For foreign-born men in 2000, labor force participation rates for the 25-to-54 age group did not vary by region of birth (Figure 15-3); however, there was some variation among women. For women born in Mexico, the labor force participation rate was 55.1 percent compared with 66.5 percent for all foreign-born women.

The unemployment rate is higher for the foreign-born labor force than for the native labor force.

In March 2000, the overall unemployment rate was 4.4 percent. The unemployment rate was higher among the foreign-born labor force (4.9 percent) than among the native labor force (4.3 percent).[2] Among males, the unemployment rates were not statistically different (4.5 percent for the foreign-born labor force and 4.4 percent for the native labor force). However, the unemployment rate was higher for foreign-born female labor force participants (5.5 percent) than for their native counterparts (4.2 percent). The unemployment rate varied by region of birth from 2.3 percent for European and 3.5 percent for Asian foreign-born workers to 7.3 percent for Mexican and 7.2 percent for Caribbean foreign-born workers.[3]

[1] Labor force data for March 2000 differ slightly from data published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) due to the use by BLS of a composite estimation procedure that reduces sampling error, especially in estimates of month-to-month change. In addition, the data in this section differ from annual average data and from seasonally adjusted data published by BLS (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2000, especially pp. 172 and 195-197).

[2] There is no statistical difference between the total unemployment rate and the rates for native females, the foreign born, the male foreign born, and the female foreign born.

[3] There is no statistical difference between European and Asian unemployment rates; there is no statistical difference between the Mexican and Caribbean rates.

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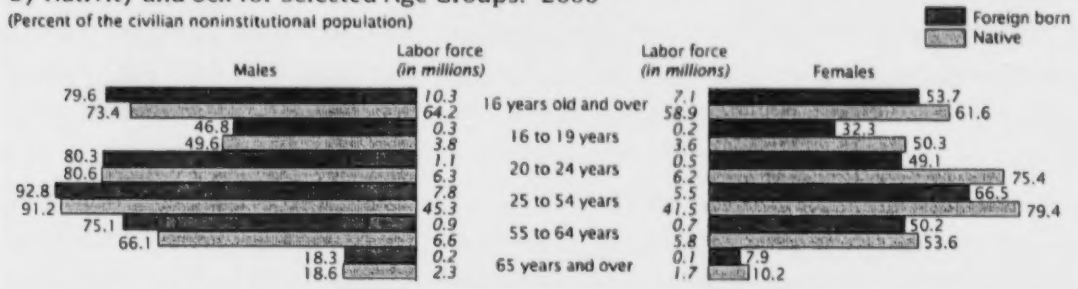
Figure 15-1.
Labor Force Participation Rates of the Population Age 16 and Older by Nativity and Sex for Selected Age Groups: 2000

(Percent of the civilian noninstitutional population)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 15-1A.

Figure 15-2.
Labor Force Participation Rates of the Population 25 to 54 Years Old by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, Citizenship Status, and Sex: 2000

(Percent of civilian noninstitutional population)

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2001, Tables 15-3A, 15-3B, 15-3C.

Figure 15-3.
Labor Force Participation Rates of the Foreign-Born Population 25 to 54 Years Old by Region of Birth and Sex: 2000

(Percent of the civilian noninstitutional population)

[1]Total includes areas not shown separately.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 15-3D.

Section 16.

Occupation

Occupational distribution of foreign-born workers differs sharply from that of native workers.

In March 2000, managerial and professional specialty occupations accounted for 24.7 percent of foreign-born workers compared with 30.9 percent of native workers (Figure 16-1).[1] Technical, sales, and administrative support occupations accounted for an additional 20.9 percent of foreign-born workers compared with an additional 30.6 percent of native workers.[2] As a result, these two occupational groups together accounted for 45.6 percent of foreign-born workers compared with 61.5 percent of native workers. Higher proportions of foreign-born workers than of native workers filled service occupations (19.2 percent versus 13.2 percent); worked as operators, fabricators, and laborers (18.7 percent versus 12.7 percent); worked in precision production, craft, and repair jobs (12.1 percent versus 10.5 percent); or held farming, forestry, and fishing jobs (4.5 percent versus 2.1 percent).[1]

Naturalized-citizen workers and native workers have similar occupational distributions.

The differences in occupational distributions between foreign-born and native workers described above are reflected in differences among foreign-born workers by length of residence in the United States and by citizenship status (Figure 16-1). In 2000, managerial and professional specialty occupations accounted for 32.6 percent of foreign-born workers who had lived in the United States for 20 years or more compared with 20.2 percent for those who had lived in the United States less than 10 years. In contrast, operators, fabricators, and laborers accounted for 13.9 percent of foreign-born workers who had lived in the United States 20 years or more compared with 22.7 percent for those who had lived in the United States less than 10 years.[4]

Among foreign-born workers in 2000, managerial and professional specialty occupations accounted for 33.6 percent of workers who were naturalized citizens versus 19.0 percent of workers who were not citizens. In contrast, operators, fabricators, and laborers accounted for 13.3 percent of naturalized-citizen workers versus 22.1 percent of workers who were not citizens.

While the occupational distribution of naturalized-citizen workers differed from that of workers who were not citizens, as well as from that of workers who were native, it more closely resembled that of native workers. In 2000, the proportions in each of the six summary occupational groups for naturalized-citizen workers and native workers were statistically different from each other in most cases, but the differences were relatively small.

The occupational classification system used here and by the Bureau of Labor Statistics is the one used in the 1990 census and is based largely on the 1980 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC). This system includes 501 detailed occupational categories, which can be combined into the 6 summary occupational groups discussed in this section. The data on occupation are for the employed civilian population age 16 years old and older (as discussed in Section 15 on labor force) who are referred to in this section as workers.

Occupational distributions of foreign-born workers differ greatly by region of birth.

As would be expected given differences in length of residence, citizenship status, and educational attainment by region of birth of the foreign-born population, there are major differences in occupational distributions (Figure 16-2). In 2000, professional and managerial specialty occupations accounted for 38.1 percent of workers from Europe and 38.7 percent of workers from Asia compared with 12.1 percent of workers from Latin America.[3] (The proportions of the foreign-born population age 25 years old and older with a bachelor's degree or more education were 32.9 percent from Europe, 44.9 percent from Asia, and 11.2 percent from Latin America.) Among foreign-born workers from Latin America, the proportions in managerial and professional specialty occupations ranged from 23.2 percent for workers from South America and 22.6 percent for workers from the Caribbean to 6.3 percent of workers from Mexico.[3] In 2000, operators, fabricators, and laborers, who accounted for 18.7 percent of foreign-born workers, accounted for 24.8 percent of workers from Latin America and for 11.2 percent of all other foreign-born workers. Farming, forestry, and fishing occupations, which accounted for 4.5 percent of foreign-born workers, accounted for 7.8 percent of workers from Latin America and for

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1.0 percent of all other foreign-born workers. Among foreign-born workers from Mexico, 28.6 percent were in the operators, fabricators, and laborers occupational group, and 12.9 percent were in the farming, forestry, and fishing occupational group.

[1] See Section 15, footnote 1, concerning labor force data for March 2000.

[2] There is no statistical difference between 30.6 and 30.9 percent.

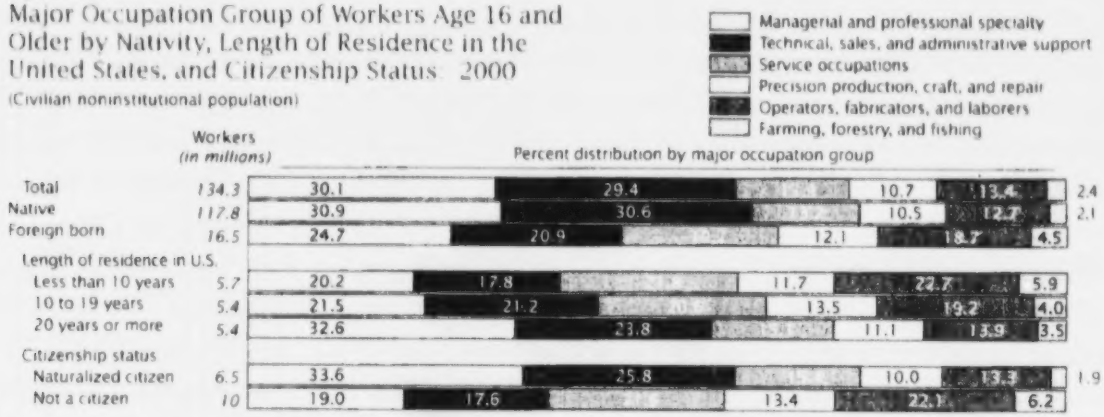
[3] There is no statistical difference between 19.2 percent and 18.7 percent.

[4] There is no statistical difference between 20.2 and 22.7.

[5] There is no statistical difference between 38.1 and 38.7.

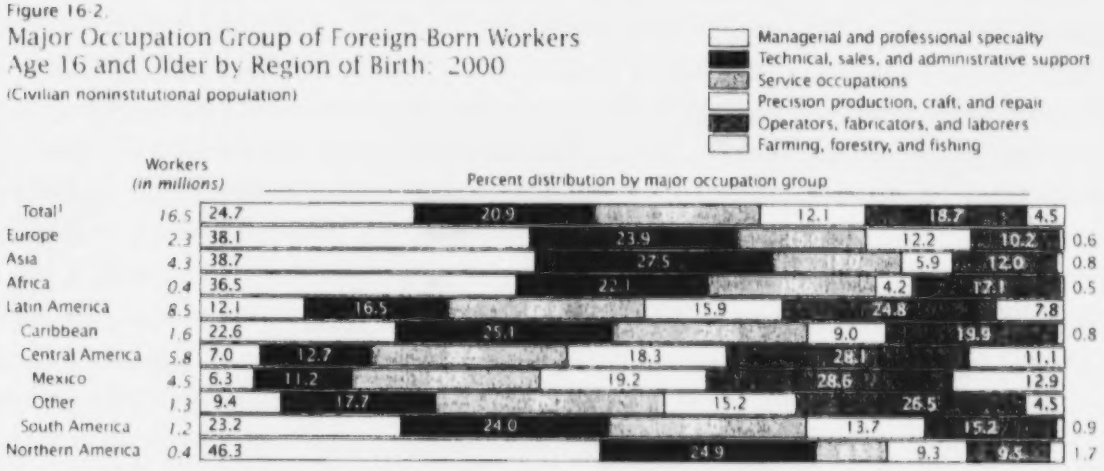
[6] There is no statistical difference between 23.2 and 22.6.

Figure 16-1.
Major Occupation Group of Workers Age 16 and Older by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 2000
(Civilian noninstitutional population)


Managerial and professional specialty
Technical, sales, and administrative support
Service occupations
Precision production, craft, and repair
Operators, fabricators, and laborers
Farming, forestry, and fishing
Workers (in millions)
Percent distribution by major occupation group
Total 134.3 30.1 29.4 10.7 13.4 2.4
Native 117.8 30.9 30.6 10.5 12.7 2.1
Foreign born 16.5 24.7 20.9 12.1 18.7 4.5
Length of residence in U.S.
Less than 10 years 5.7 20.2 17.8 11.7 22.7 5.9
10 to 19 years 5.4 21.5 21.2 13.5 19.2 4.0
20 years or more 5.4 32.6 23.8 11.1 13.9 3.5
Citizenship status
Naturalized citizen 6.5 33.6 25.8 10.0 13.3 1.9
Not a citizen 10 19.0 17.6 13.4 22.1 6.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 16-1A, 16-1B, and 16-1C.

Figure 16-2.
Major Occupation Group of Foreign Born Workers Age 16 and Older by Region of Birth: 2000
(Civilian noninstitutional population)


Managerial and professional specialty
Technical, sales, and administrative support
Service occupations
Precision production, craft, and repair
Operators, fabricators, and laborers
Farming, forestry, and fishing
Workers (in millions)
Percent distribution by major occupation group
Total[1] 16.5 24.7 20.9 12.1 18.7 4.5
Europe 2.3 38.1 23.9 12.2 10.2 0.6
Asia 4.3 38.7 27.5 5.9 12.0 0.8
Africa 0.4 36.5 22.1 4.2 17.1 0.5
Latin America 8.5 12.1 16.5 15.9 24.8 7.8
Caribbean 1.6 22.6 25.1 9.0 19.9 0.8
Central America 5.8 7.0 12.7 18.3 28.1 11.1
Mexico 4.5 6.3 11.2 19.2 28.6 12.9
Other 1.3 9.4 17.7 15.2 26.5 4.5
South America 1.2 23.2 24.0 13.7 15.2 0.9
Northern America 0.4 46.3 24.9 9.3 9.5 1.7

[1] Total includes areas not shown separately.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 16-1D.

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Section 17.

Earnings of Full-Time, Year-Round Workers

Earnings of full-time, year-round workers are lower for foreign-born workers than for their native counterparts.

In 1999, median earnings for all full-time, year-round workers age 16 and older (shortened to "workers" in the remainder of the text of this section) were $36,572 for men and $26,380 for women.[1] Median earnings for foreign-born male and female workers were $27,239 and $22,139, respectively, compared with $37,528 and $26,698 respectively, for native male and female workers (Figure 17-1). The female-to-male earnings ratio was higher for foreign-born workers (0.81) than for native workers (0.71).

Among foreign-born male workers, 44.9 percent had earnings less than $25,000 while 23.2 percent had earnings of $50,000 or more. Among their native counterparts, the corresponding proportions were 24.2 percent and 33.0 percent, respectively.

Among foreign-born female workers, 55.5 percent had earnings less than $25,000, while 12.0 percent had earnings of $50,000 or more. Among their native counterparts, the corresponding proportions were 44.1 percent and 13.2 percent, respectively.[2] Even though the median earnings of foreign-born female workers were lower than those of native female workers, the proportions with earnings of $50,000 or more were not significantly different.

Earnings include money wage or salary income before deductions from work performed as an employee, net income from farm and nonfarm self employment for workers. In this report, a full-time year-round worker is a person age 16 or older who worked 35 or more hours per week for 50 or more weeks during the calendar year.

Earnings of foreign-born workers who are naturalized citizens are higher than the earnings of other foreign-born workers.

The median earnings of foreign-born male workers in 1999 were $21,600 for those living in the United States less than 10 years and $35,778 for those living in the United States 20 years or more. The corresponding figures for foreign-born female workers were $17,330 and $27,221.

For foreign-born male workers, median earnings in 1999 were $36,157 for naturalized citizens and $22,276 for workers who were not citizens. The corresponding figures for foreign-born female workers were $27,697 and $18,236, respectively.

Median earnings of workers from Europe and Asia exceed the median earnings of workers from Latin America.

Among foreign-born workers from the regions shown in Figure 17-2, those from Europe and Asia generally had the highest earnings. The median earnings of workers from Latin America were well below the median earnings of all foreign-born workers.

For men from Europe and Asia, the median earnings were $44,990 and $36,911, respectively, while for women, median earnings were $28,319 and $29,662, respectively.[3] In comparison, the median earnings for workers from Latin America were $20,974 for men and $17,213 for women. The female-to-male earnings ratio was higher for foreign-born workers from Latin America (0.82) and Asia (.80) than for foreign-born workers from Europe (0.63).[4]

Median earnings for workers from the Caribbean ($26,971 for men and $21,255 for women) and from South America ($27,502 for men and $23,080 for women) were not statistically different from each other. The median earnings of Mexican-born female workers ($15,149) were below the respective medians for both male and female workers from the Caribbean and South America and Mexican-born men ($19,181) but not different from earnings for female workers from other Central American countries ($15,857).[5]

---

[1] There was no statistical difference in the earnings of foreign-born men and native women.

[2] There was no statistical difference in the proportion of native females and foreign-born males earning less than $25,000.

[3] The apparent differences in median earnings of female workers from Europe and Asia were not statistically different.

[4] Male/female earnings ratios for foreign-born workers from Asia and Latin America are not significantly different; however, a Latin American worker earns about $0.51 for every $1.00 an Asian worker earns.

[5] There was no statistical difference in the earnings of Mexican-born male workers and female workers from the Caribbean or South America.

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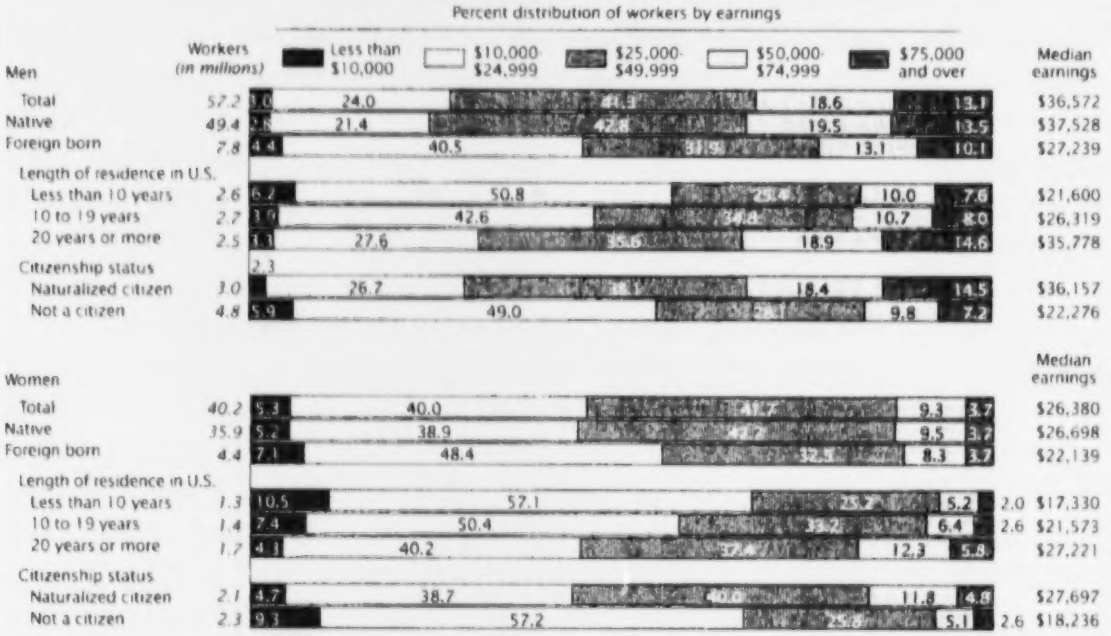
Figure 17-1.

Earnings of Full-Time, Year-Round Workers by Sex, Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 1999

(Population as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)

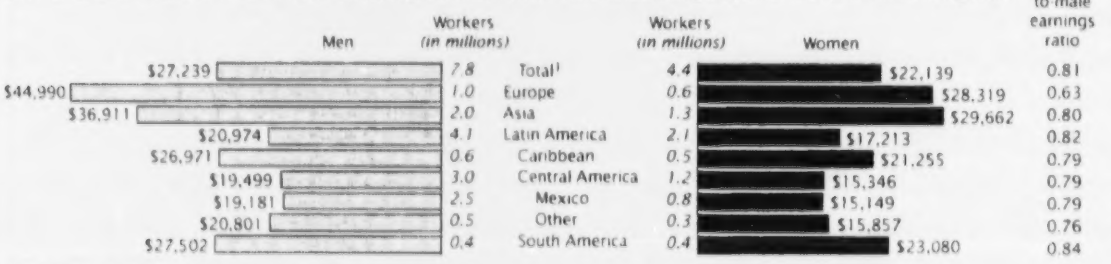


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 17-1A, 17-1B, and 17-1C.

Figure 17-2.

Median Earnings of Foreign-Born Full-Time, Year-Round Workers by Sex and Region of Birth: 1999

(Population as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



[1] Total includes areas not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 17-1D.

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Section 18.

Money Income of Households

Income is lower among foreign-born households than among native households.

In 1999, median income for all households was $40,816.[1] The median income for households with a foreign-born householder was $36,048 compared with $41,383 for households with a native householder (Figure 18-1). Foreign-born households with incomes below $25,000 and with incomes of $50,000 or more were about equal — 34.5 percent and 36.2 percent, respectively. In contrast, 30.2 percent of native households had an income of less than $25,000, and 41.6 percent had an income of $50,000 or more.

The lower income of foreign-born households was not explained by differences in household size or the numbers of earners per household. For example, in 1999 median income of two-member households was $33,231 when the householder was foreign born and $44,184 when the householder was native. The corresponding medians were $45,233 and $61,364 respectively for four-member households.

As discussed in Section 11, the average size of foreign-born households in 2000 was considerably larger than that of native households (3.26 versus 2.54). The average number of earners in 1999 per foreign-born household was 1.60 compared with 1.40 for native households.[2] The higher average number of earners in foreign-born households reflects the higher ratio of adults age 18 or older per foreign-born household — 2.27 versus 1.88 for native households. Although there was some variation in the number of earners per household by region of birth of the householder, the variation had no apparent affect on household income differences.[3]

Data on income are based on money income received (excluding capital gains) before deductions for income taxes, social security, union dues, medicare deductions, etc. Money income does not include the value of noncash benefits such as food stamps, medicare, medicaid, public housing, and employer-provided fringe benefits. Noncash benefits are discussed in Sections 20 and 21. Earners include wage and salary workers and nonfarm and farm self-employed workers. For definitions of households, see Section 11. Data on income are for the 1999 calendar year and are based on the composition of households as of March 2000.

Among foreign-born households, median income in 1999 ranged from $40,178 when the householder's length of residence in the United States was 20 years or more to $30,604 when the householder's length of residence was less than 10 years (Figure 18-1). Median household income was considerably higher when the householder was a naturalized citizen than when the householder was not a citizen: $43,947 versus $31,199.

Region of birth is connected to household income.

In 1999, households with a householder born in Asia had a median income of $51,363 (Figure 18-2). This was well above the median income of native households as well as of other foreign-born households. The median income for households with a European-born householder ($41,733) was not statistically different from the native median but much higher than the median for households with a Latin American-born householder ($29,388).

The higher median income of households with an Asian-born householder is mostly due to a combination of three factors. First, a high proportion of Asian foreign-born workers (both men and women) held higher-paying management and professional jobs, a characteristic shared with male European foreign-born workers.[4] Secondly, compared with the European foreign born, a relatively low proportion of householders from Asia were age 65 or older and thus were much more likely to be labor force participants and contributing earnings from employment.[5] Thirdly, about 70 percent of foreign-born Asian women were in the labor force, resulting in many dual-earner households.

Married-couple households have the highest income.

Among both foreign-born and native households in 1999, married-couple family households had higher incomes ($44,152 and $58,382 respectively), than did other household types.[6] Family households with female householders (with no spouse present) had much lower median incomes than married-couple family households. The median income for these households was $24,776

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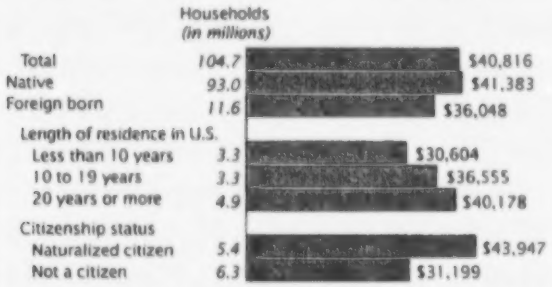
when the female family householder was foreign born, compared with $26,338 when the householder was native.[7]

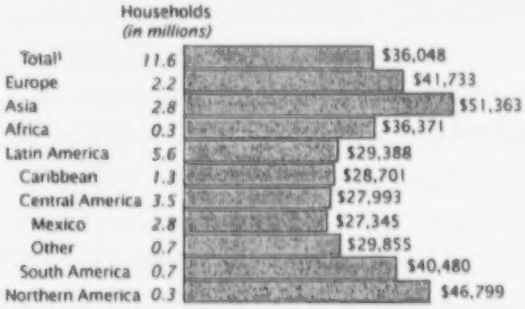
[1] Income rounded to dollars.
[2] Earners include wage and salary workers and nonfarm and farm self-employed workers.
[3] For example, households with Mexican-born householders had an earner ratio of 1.86 and a lower median income compared with European-born householders who had a ratio of 1.26 and a high median income.
[4] About 38 percent of foreign-born men and women from Asia, as well as European-born men, occupied managerial and professional specialty jobs which require higher levels of education and pay more on average than other jobs. See Section 16, Occupation, and Section 17, Earnings of Year-Round, Full-Time Workers. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 16-A1, 16-D1.)
[5] This included 27.6 percent of the European foreign-born population and 9.5 percent of the foreign born from Asia.
[6] Nativity of married couples refers to the householder only.
[7] The incomes of foreign-born and native female family households are not statistically different.

Figure 18-1.
Median Household Income by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status of the Householder: 1999
(Households as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)


Households (in millions)
Total 104.7 $40,816
Native 93.0 $41,383
Foreign born 11.6 $36,048
Length of residence in U.S.
Less than 10 years 3.3 $30,604
10 to 19 years 3.3 $36,555
20 years or more 4.9 $40,178
Citizenship status
Naturalized citizen 5.4 $43,947
Not a citizen 6.3 $31,199

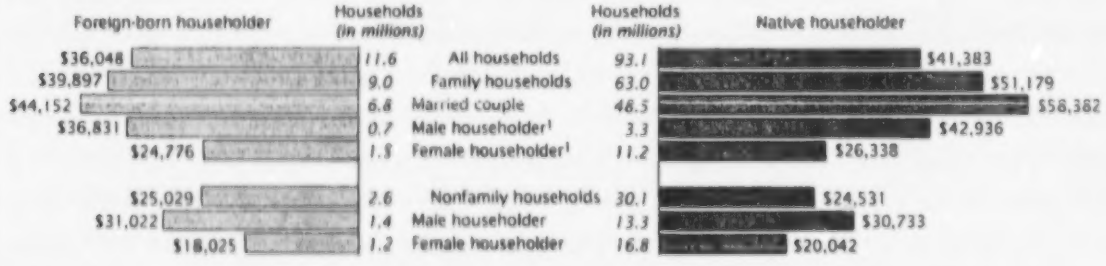
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 18-1A, 18-1B, and 18-1C.

Figure 18-2.
Income of Foreign-Born Households by Region of Birth of the Householder: 1999
(Households as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



[1] Total includes areas not shown separately.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 18-1D.

Figure 18-3.
Median Household Income by Nativity of Householder and Type of Household: 1999
(Households as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)


Foreign-born householder
Households (in millions)
Native householder
$36,048 11.6 All households 93.1 $41,383
$39,897 9.0 Family households 63.0 $51,179
$44,152 6.8 Married couple 46.5 $58,382
$36,831 0.7 Male householder[1] 3.3 $42,936
$24,776 1.8 Female householder[1] 11.2 $26,338
$25,029 2.6 Nonfamily households 30.1 $24,531
$31,022 1.4 Male householder 13.3 $30,733
$18,025 1.2 Female householder 16.8 $20,042

[1] No spouse present.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 18-2.

Section 19.

Poverty Status

The poverty rate is higher among the foreign-born population than among the native population.

In 1999, the poverty rate, which was 11.8 percent for the total population, was 16.8 percent for the foreign-born population and 11.2 percent for the native population (Figure 19-1). Of the 32.3 million individuals below the poverty level, 4.8 million, or 14.7 percent, were foreign-born. Among the foreign-born population, the poverty rate ranged from 9.9 percent for those who had lived in the United States for 20 years and longer to 23.5 percent for those who had lived in the United States for less than 10 years. The poverty rate was 9.1 percent for naturalized citizens, compared with 21.3 percent noncitizens.

Among both males and females, the poverty rate in 1999 was higher for the foreign-born population than for the native population (Figure 19-3). For the population under age 18, the poverty rate for the foreign born (29.4 percent) was about twice as high as the poverty rate for their native counterparts (16.4 percent). For people 65 years and older, poverty rates were much lower: 13.8 percent for the foreign-born population compared with 9.3 percent for the native population.[1]

Poverty rates of the foreign-born population differ by region of birth.

The poverty rates for the population born in Europe (9.3 percent) and in Asia (12.8 percent), which were not significantly different from each other, were about half as high as the poverty rate for the population born in Latin America (21.9 percent). (Figure 19-2). Among the foreign-born population from Latin America, the poverty rates ranged from 11.5 percent for the population from South America to 25.8 percent for the population from Mexico.

The poverty rates of families differ by nativity and type.

In 1999, when the overall poverty rate for families was 9.3 percent, the poverty rate was 15.7 percent for families with foreign-born householders, almost twice the poverty rate of 8.3 percent for families with native householders. For families with a foreign-born householder, poverty rates in 1999 ranged from 9.5 percent for families with no related children under age 18 to 32.8 percent for families with three or more related children under 18 years old. The corresponding rates for families with a native householder were 3.9 percent and 20.6 percent. Foreign-born families with a female householder, no husband present, had a higher poverty rate than married-couple families with a foreign-born householder (31.0 percent, compared with 12.4 percent).

Poverty rates are high for children living in families with a foreign-born householder, regardless of the child's nativity.

In 1999, the poverty rate for related children age under age 18 in families with foreign-born householders was 24.0 percent (2.7 million of 11.2 million). For the children who were foreign born, the poverty rate was 29.9 percent (0.7 million of 2.5 million). For the children who were native, the poverty rate was 22.3 percent (1.9 million of 8.8 million children).[2] Native children accounted for 72.4 percent of the related children under age 18 living below the poverty level in families with foreign-born householders.

The poverty definition used by the federal government for statistical purposes is based on a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition and do not take into account noncash benefits or taxes. The average threshold in 1999 for a four-person family was $17,029. The poverty status (in poverty or not in poverty) of a family is assigned to each member of the family. Poverty status is not defined for individuals under 15 years old who are not related to anyone in the household (e.g., foster children). For a discussion of alternative definitions of poverty, see U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, P60-201.

[1] The poverty rate for natives under age 18 was not significantly different from the rate for foreign-born people 65 years old and older.

[2] The poverty rate for related children under age 18 in families with a foreign-born householder (24.0 percent) reflects the average rate for both foreign born (29.9 percent) and native (22.3 percent) children and is statistically different from neither.

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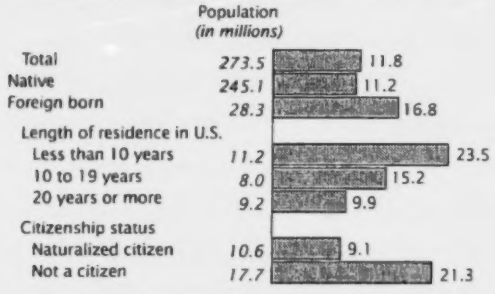
Figure 19-1.

Poverty Rates for the Population by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 1999

(Populations as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post and excluding unrelated individuals under 15 years old)

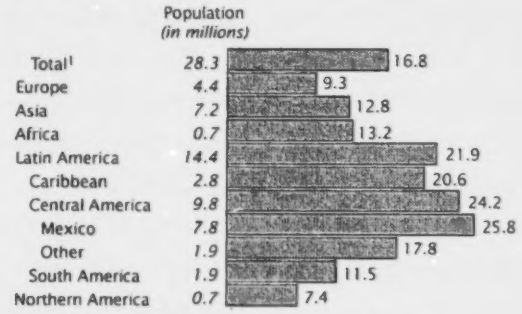


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 19-1A, 19-1B, and 19-1C.

Figure 19-2.

Poverty Rates for the Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: 1999

(Population as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post and excluding unrelated individuals under 15 years old)

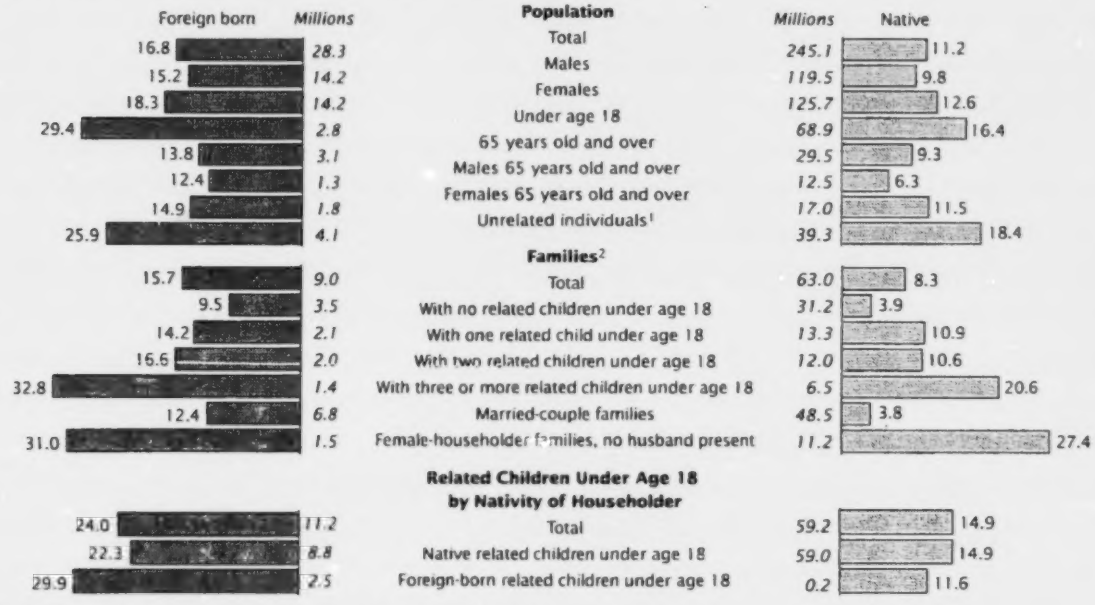


[1]Total includes areas not shown separately.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001b, Table 19-1D.

Figure 19-3.

Selected Poverty Rates for the Population by Nativity, for Families by Nativity of the Householder, and for Related Children Under Age 18 by Nativity: 1999

(Population as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post and excluding unrelated individuals under 15 years old)


Foreign born
Millions
Native
Millions
Population
Total 16.8 28.3 245.1 11.2
Males 15.2 14.2 119.5 9.8
Females 18.3 14.2 125.7 12.6
Under age 18 29.4 2.8 68.9 16.4
65 years old and over 13.8 3.1 29.5 9.3
Males 65 years old and over 12.4 1.3 12.5 6.3
Females 65 years old and over 14.9 1.8 17.0 11.5
Unrelated individuals[1] 25.9 4.1 39.3 18.4
Families[2]
Total 15.7 9.0 63.0 8.3
With no related children under age 18 9.5 3.5 31.2 3.9
With one related child under age 18 14.2 2.1 13.3 10.9
With two related children under age 18 16.6 2.0 12.0 10.6
With three or more related children under age 18 32.8 1.4 6.5 20.6
Married-couple families 12.4 6.8 48.5 3.8
Female-householder families, no husband present 31.0 1.5 11.2 27.4
Related Children Under Age 18 by Nativity of Householder
Total 24.0 11.2 59.2 14.9
Native related children under age 18 22.3 8.8 59.0 14.9
Foreign-born related children under age 18 29.9 2.5 0.2 11.6

[1]Includes individuals who live alone, or who are unrelated to anyone in the household.
[2]Nativity reflects the status of the householder.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 19-1A, 19-2A, 19-3A, and 19-4A.

Section 20.

Means-Tested Program Participation

The participation rate in means-tested programs is higher among foreign-born households.

In 1999, 2.5 million, or 21.2 percent, of households with foreign-born householders participated in one or more of the following means-tested programs providing noncash benefits: food stamps, housing assistance, or medicaid. The corresponding figures for households with native householders were 13.5 million, or 14.6 percent (Figure 20-1). For participation in one or more means-tested programs providing cash benefits — Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), General Assistance (GA), or Supplemental Security Insurance (SSI) — the corresponding figures were 0.9 million, or 8.0 percent, for foreign-born households, and 5.2 million, or 5.6 percent, for native households.

Means-tested programs provide cash and noncash assistance to portions of the low-income population. The programs require the income and/or assets of an individual or family to be below specified thresholds in order to qualify for benefits. The noncash programs included here are food stamps, housing assistance, and medicaid. The cash programs included here are Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), General Assistance (GA), and Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

Participation rates in 1999 for medicaid and TANF/GA were higher for foreign-born households than for native households. The highest participation rates were for medicaid — 18.6 percent of foreign-born households and 12.1 percent of native households.

Among foreign-born households, participation rates in noncash programs vary by citizenship status and length of residence.

The participation rate in noncash programs in 1999 was 24.8 percent for noncitizen households compared with 16.9 percent for naturalized-citizen households (Figure 20-2). For cash programs, the rates were 8.0 percent for both noncitizen and naturalized-citizen households.

Among foreign-born households, the participation rate in noncash programs was lowest when the householder's length of residence in the United States was 20 years or longer (17.0 percent).

Participation rates among foreign-born households vary sharply by region of birth of the householder.

In 1999, the participation rates in means-tested noncash programs for households with householders from Europe (10.1 percent) and from Asia (16.7 percent) were one-third and one-half, respectively, of the rate for households with householders from Latin America (29.5 percent) (Figure 20-3). The participation rate in cash programs for households with householders from Europe (4.7 percent) was one-half the rate for households with householders from Latin America (9.6 percent).[1]

Female family householders, with no husband present, have the highest participation rates in means-tested programs.

In 1999, the participation rates in noncash programs for family households with female householders, no husband present, were not significantly different for foreign-born households (39.7 percent) and native households (40.4 percent), but each of these figures was larger than the corresponding figure for other types of family households.[2] Likewise, the participation rates in cash programs for female family householders, no husband present, were not significantly different for foreign-born households (19.2 percent) and native households (18.2 percent), though again, these rates were higher than those of other family households.

Participation rates in noncash programs in 1999 were lowest for native married-couple family households. The rates for married couple family households were 19.6 percent for foreign-born households and 8.6 percent for native households. For cash programs, the rates for married couple family households were 6.2 percent and 2.7 percent respectively.

[1] The participation rate for households with householders from Asia (8.8 percent) was not statistically different from households with householders from Europe or Latin America.

[2] In contrast to data on poverty for families, which do not include any nonfamily members living with families (i.e., individuals not related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption), data on means tested programs for family households include nonfamily members. In March 2000, the 72.0 million family households in the United States included 228.6 million family members and 4.5 million nonfamily members. See Section 11 and Section 12 for more information about families and households. The nativity designation of the household is based on the nativity status of the householder.

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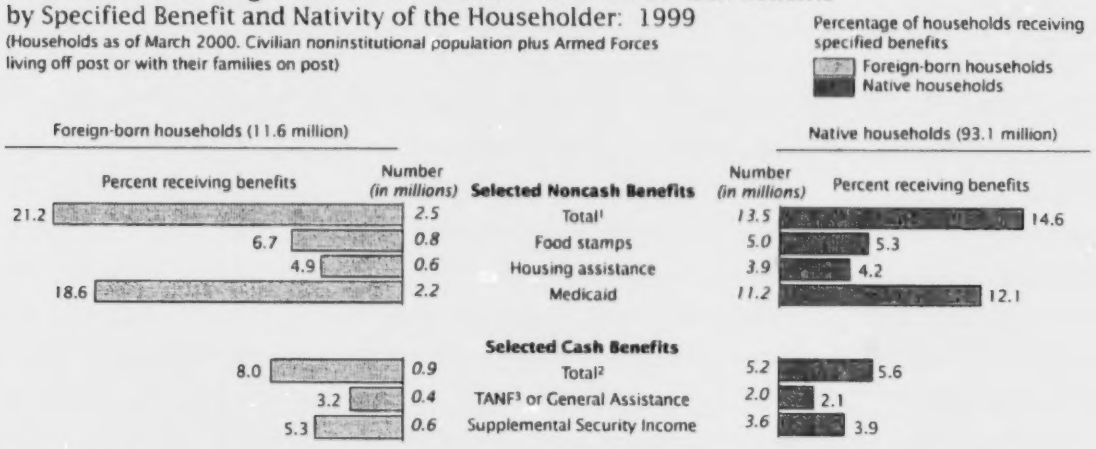
Figure 20-1.

Households Receiving Selected Means-Tested Noncash or Cash Benefits by Specified Benefit and Nativity of the Householder: 1999

(Households as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)

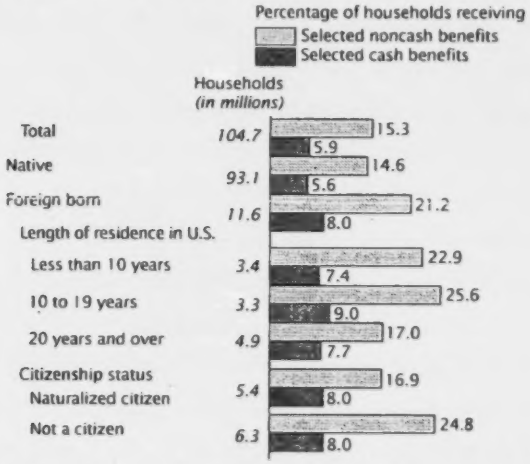


1Includes households receiving benefits from one or more of the three programs listed.
2Includes households receiving benefits from TANF or general assistance and/or from Supplemental Security Income.
3Temporary Assistance to Needy Families.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 20-1A and 20-1B.

Figure 20-2.

Households Receiving Selected Means-Tested Noncash or Cash Benefits by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status of the Householder: 1999

(Households as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)

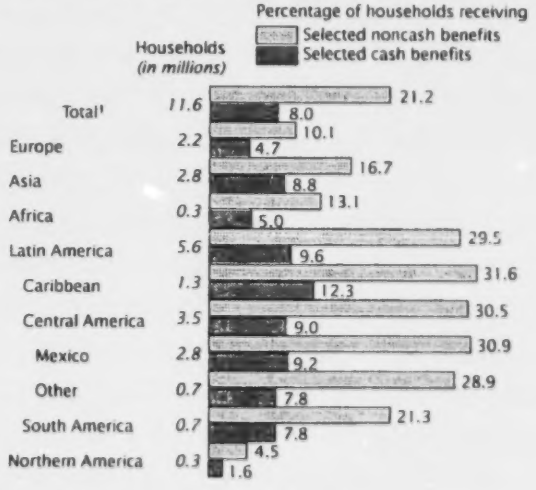


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 20-1A, 20-1B, 20-1C, 20-2A, 20-2B, and 20-2C.

Figure 20-3.

Foreign-Born Households Receiving Selected Means-Tested Noncash or Cash Benefits by Region of Birth of the Householder: 1999

(Households as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



1Total includes areas not shown separately.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 20-1D and 20-2D.

Section 21.

Health Insurance

One-fifth of the population with no health insurance is foreign born.

In 1999, 84.5 percent of the total population had health insurance for all or at least part of the year. The proportion was lower among the foreign-born population than among the native population: 66.6 percent versus 86.5 percent (Figure 21-1).[1] Of the 42.6 million individuals with no health insurance during 1999, 9.5 million, or 22.2 percent, were foreign born.

Among the foreign-born population, the proportion with health insurance in 1999 ranged from 54.5 percent for residents in the United States less than 10 years to 81.8 percent among those resident 20 years or more. The proportion with health insurance was 82.1 percent for naturalized citizens compared with 57.4 percent for noncitizens. Foreign-born males were less likely to be insured (64.4 percent) than foreign-born females (68.9 percent).

The proportion of the foreign-born population with health insurance varied by region of birth (Figure 21-2). For the populations from Europe and Asia, the proportions in 1999 were 86.3 percent and 75.7 percent respectively. For the total population from Latin America, the proportion was 54.3 percent; it ranged from 69.3 percent and 67.3 percent, respectively, for the populations from the Caribbean and South America (not significantly different from each other) to 47.4 percent for the population from Mexico. Health insurance coverage for children in foreign-born householder families varied by the householder's place of birth and ranged from 85.4 percent and 83.1 percent, respectively, for the population born in Europe and Asia (not significantly different from each other) to 67.9 percent for the population from Latin America.

Health insurance includes private insurance plans and government insurance plans. Private insurance plans include those offered through employment (either one's own and/or a relative's) and those purchased privately. Government insurance plans include medicare, medicaid, S-CHIP[4], and military health care.[5] Individuals may be covered by more than one type of health insurance during the year. There is some evidence that health insurance is underreported.[6]

The proportion of foreign-born workers with employment-based health insurance is lower than for native workers.[2]

In 1999, 44.5 percent of foreign-born workers and 54.6 percent of native workers had employment-based health insurance (Figure 21-3). Among foreign-born workers, the proportion ranged from 36.2 percent for residents in the United States less than 10 years to 54.8 percent for those resident 20 years or more. The proportion was 54.6 percent for naturalized citizens compared with 37.9 percent for noncitizens. By region of birth, the proportions were 57.3 percent of workers from Europe, 53.2 percent for workers from Asia, and 35.2 percent for workers from Latin America (Figure 21-4).[3] For workers from Mexico, the proportion with employment-based health insurance was 30.5 percent. Male foreign-born workers were more likely to have employment-based health insurance than female foreign-born workers, 46.9 percent compared to 41.0 percent.

[1] The proportions with health insurance under private insurance plans were 53.1 percent for the foreign-born population and 73.1 percent for the native population.

[2] Employment-based insurance refers to coverage offered through one's own employment and excludes coverage through another person's policy.

[3] There is no statistical difference between 57.3 percent and 53.2 percent.

[4] State Children's Health Insurance Plans.

[5] Military health care includes CHAMPUS (Comprehensive Health and Medical Plan for Uniformed Services)/Tricare, CHAMPVA (Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs), Veterans', and military health care.

[6] U.S. Census Bureau, 1998c, p. 12.

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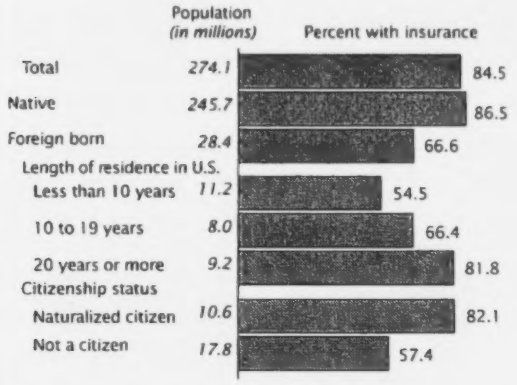
Figure 21-1.

Health Insurance Coverage of the Population by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 1999

(Population as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)

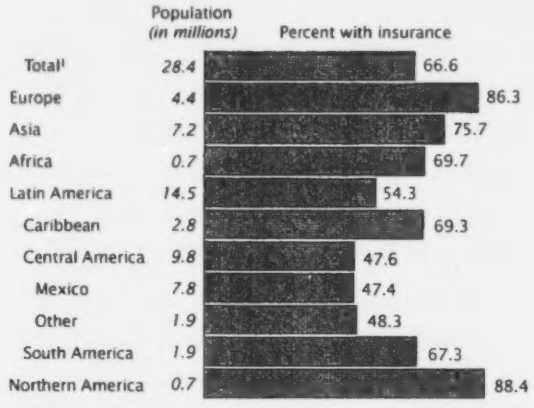

Population (in millions)
Percent with insurance
Total 274.1 84.5
Native 245.7 86.5
Foreign born 28.4 66.6
Length of residence in U.S.
Less than 10 years 11.2 54.5
10 to 19 years 8.0 66.4
20 years or more 9.2 81.8
Citizenship status
Naturalized citizen 10.6 82.1
Not a citizen 17.8 57.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 21-1A, 21-1B, and 21-1C.

Figure 21-2.

Health Insurance Coverage of the Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: 1999

(Population as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)

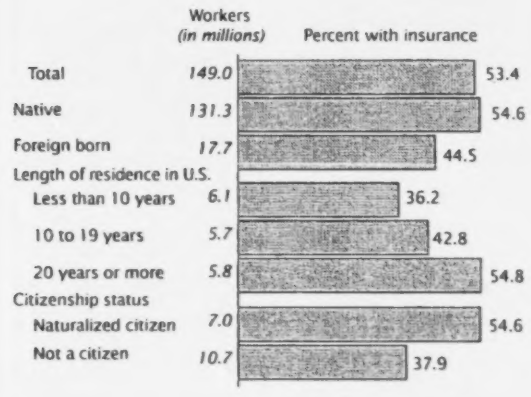


[1]Total includes regions not shown separately.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 21-1D.

Figure 21-3.

Employment-Based Health Insurance for Workers by Nativity, Length of Residence in the United States, and Citizenship Status: 1999

(Workers as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)

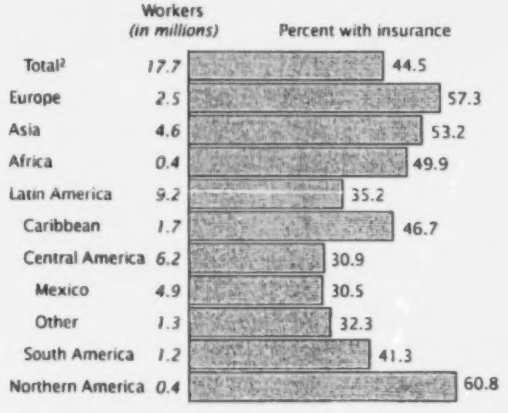

Workers (in millions)
Percent with insurance
Total 149.0 53.4
Native 131.3 54.6
Foreign born 17.7 44.5
Length of residence in U.S.
Less than 10 years 6.1 36.2
10 to 19 years 5.7 42.8
20 years or more 5.8 54.8
Citizenship status
Naturalized citizen 7.0 54.6
Not a citizen 10.7 37.9

[1]Employment-based insurance refers to coverage offered through one's own employment and excludes coverage through another person's policy.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 21-3A, 21-3B, and 21-3C.

Figure 21-4.

Employment-Based Health Insurance for Foreign-Born Workers by Region of Birth: 1999

(Workers as of March 2000. Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)



[1]Employment-based insurance refers to coverage offered through one's own employment and excludes coverage through another person's policy.
[2]Total includes areas not shown separately.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 21-3D.

Section 22.

Homeownership

Homeownership rates are similar for naturalized citizen households and native households.

In March 2000, the homeownership rate for the United States was 67.2 percent (Figure 22-1). The rate was much higher for native households (69.5 percent) than for households with a foreign-born householder (48.8 percent). Among foreign-born households, the rate was higher when the householder was a naturalized citizen (66.5 percent) than when the householder was not a citizen (33.5 percent). Naturalized-citizen householders had a rate not very different from that of native householders.

Among the foreign born, the homeownership rate for naturalized-citizen householders who had been in the United States for 10 or more years was 68.1 percent compared with 42.3 percent for those who had lived here less than 10 years. Comparable rates for noncitizens were 43.1 percent and 22.6 percent, respectively (Figure 22-1).[1]

The members of a household, as defined in Section 11, live in an occupied housing unit (e.g., a house, condominium, cooperative, mobile home, tent, or houseboat). The homeownership rate is the percentage of householders in which the owner or a co-owner is a member of the household, whether or not the housing unit is mortgaged or not otherwise fully paid for. Households are classified as foreign born or native based on the nativity of the householder, regardless of the nativity of other household members.

Homeownership rates increase as the age of the householder increases.

For both native and foreign-born householders, homeownership was more likely when the householder was older although the rates for native householders were higher for each age category shown in Table 22-1. Native householders younger than age 35 had a homeownership rate of 42.8 percent. Those in ages 35 to 64 had a rate of 75.7 percent, and those 65 years and older had a rate of 81.6 percent. A similar pattern occurred for foreign-born householders where the homeownership rate for those younger than age 35 was 25.8 percent, compared with 55.8 percent for those ages 35 to 64, and 67.4 percent for those ages 65 years and older.

Homeownership rates are highest for foreign-born householders from Europe.

Among the regions of birth with 1 million or more foreign-born householders, the homeownership rate ranged from 63.5 percent for householders from Europe, to 52.0 percent for householders from Asia, and 41.2 percent for householders from Latin America (Figure 22-3). These differences are partially explained by age differences.

Householders from Europe had the highest median age of 54.8 years, compared with 42.7 years for Asian householders and 39.7 years for Latin American householders. Since homeownership rates increase with age, and European householders are relatively older than Asian and Latin American householders, and Asian householders in turn are older than Latin American householders, it appears age differences may explain some of the regional differences.

The homeownership rates for householders under age 35 from Europe, Asia, and Latin America ranged from 25 percent to 30 percent.[2] For those 65 years or older, householders from Europe had the highest rate (76.5 percent), compared with 59.5 percent for those from Asia and 55.9 percent for those from Latin America.[3]

[1] The homeownership rate for naturalized citizens with a length of residence of less than 10 years (42.3 percent) is not statistically different from the comparable rate for noncitizens with a length of residence of 10 years or more (43.1 percent).

[2] The proportions for Asia (29.6 percent) and Latin America (24.5 percent) were not statistically different.

[3] The proportions for Asia and Latin America were not statistically different.

Table 22.1.
Homeownership Rates by Nativity, Region of Birth, and Age of Householder: 2000

	All	Less than 35 years old	35 to 64 years old	65 years old or older
Native	69.5	42.8	75.7	81.6
Foreign born[1]	48.8	25.8	55.8	67.4
Europe	63.5	25.9	66.2	76.5
Asia	52.0	29.6	62.4	59.5
Latin America	41.2	24.5	48.9	55.9

[1] Includes all foreign born.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 22-2D.

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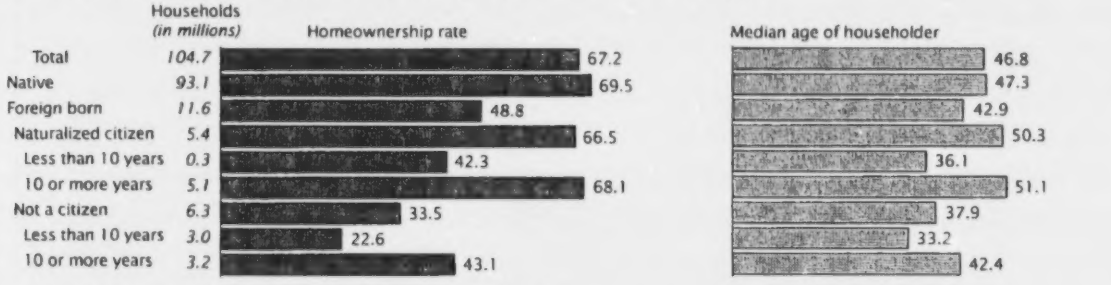
Figure 22-1.

Homeownership Rates and Median Age of Householder by Nativity, Citizenship Status, and Length of Residence in the United States: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)

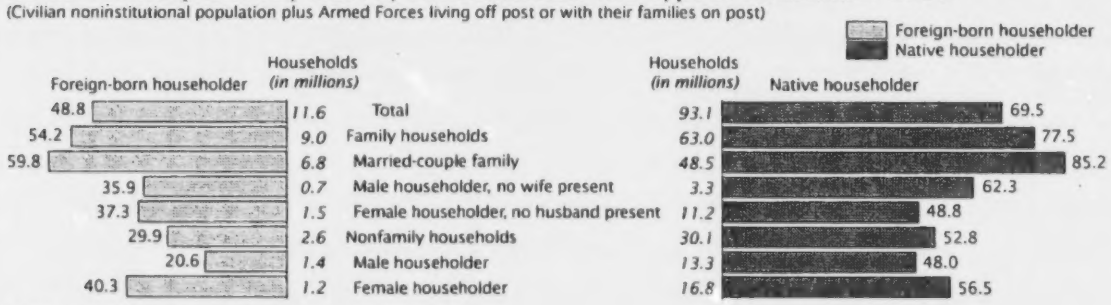

Households (in millions)
Homeownership rate
Median age of householder
Total 104.7 67.2 46.8
Native 93.1 69.5 47.3
Foreign born 11.6 48.8 42.9
Naturalized citizen 5.4 66.5 50.3
Less than 10 years 0.3 42.3 36.1
10 or more years 5.1 68.1 51.1
Not a citizen 6.3 33.5 37.9
Less than 10 years 3.0 22.6 33.2
10 or more years 3.2 43.1 42.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 22-1A, 22-1B, 22-1C, 22-2A, 22-2B, and 22-2C.

Figure 22-2.

Homeownership Rates by Nativity of Householder and Type of Household: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)

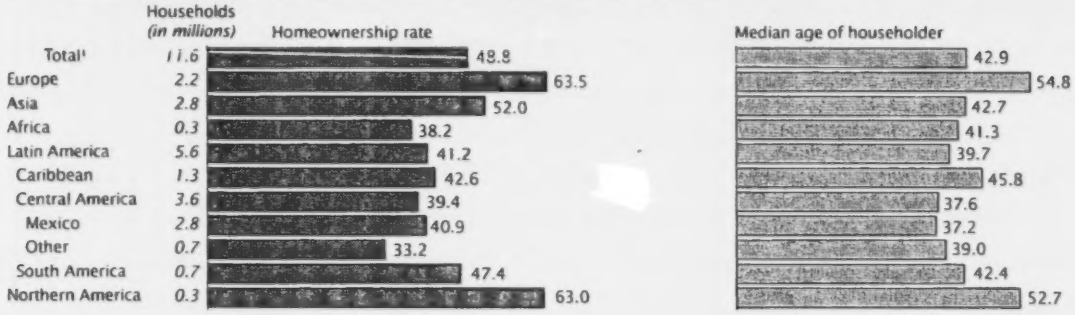

Foreign-born householder
Native householder
Foreign-born householder
Households (in millions)
Households (in millions)
Native householder
48.8 11.6 Total 93.1 69.5
54.2 9.0 Family households 63.0 77.5
59.8 6.8 Married-couple family 48.5 85.2
35.9 0.7 Male householder, no wife present 3.3 62.3
37.3 1.5 Female householder, no husband present 11.2 48.8
29.9 2.6 Nonfamily households 30.1 52.8
20.6 1.4 Male householder 13.3 48.0
40.3 1.2 Female householder 16.8 56.5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Table 22-1A.

Figure 22-3.

Homeownership Rates and Median Age of Householder for Foreign-Born Householders by Region of Birth: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)


Households (in millions)
Homeownership rate
Median age of householder
Total[1] 11.6 48.8 42.9
Europe 2.2 63.5 54.8
Asia 2.8 52.0 42.7
Africa 0.3 38.2 41.3
Latin America 5.6 41.2 39.7
Caribbean 1.3 42.6 45.8
Central America 3.6 39.4 37.6
Mexico 2.8 40.9 37.2
Other 0.7 33.2 39.0
South America 0.7 47.4 42.4
Northern America 0.3 63.0 52.7

[1]Total includes regions not shown separately.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001, Tables 22-1D and 22-2D.

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Appendix A.

Foreign Born and Other Terms: Definitions and Concepts

The term foreign born and other related terms are discussed below. For additional information, see the *References* preceding Section A.[1]

Foreign Born

U.S. Census Bureau publications, including P23-206 (this report) define the term **foreign born** as people residing in the United States on census day or on a survey date who were not U.S. citizens at birth.[2] The term **native** refers to people residing in the United States who were U.S. citizens in one of three categories:

(1) People born in one of the fifty states and the District of Columbia;

(2) People born in U.S. Island Areas such as Puerto Rico or Guam;

(3) People who were born abroad to at least one parent who was a U.S. citizen.

The classification of the resident population of the United States by native and foreign born (based on citizenship status) is shown in Figure A-1 and reflects the definitions presented above.

Born in the United States and Born Abroad

Generally, census publications use the terms **born in the United States** and **born abroad** when referring to place of birth or the nativity of the U.S. resident population. These terms are not used interchangeably with the terms **native** and **foreign born** in census reports including this report, *Profile of the Foreign-Born Population in the United States, 2000* (P23-206). Whereas the foreign-born and native populations are determined by citizenship status at birth, the population born in the United States and the population born abroad are determined by place of birth, regardless of citizenship status. The population born abroad consists of the native population in categories (2) and (3) above, plus the foreign-born population. The Census Bureau does not use the term "**native born**" in census publications.

Immigration and Related Terms

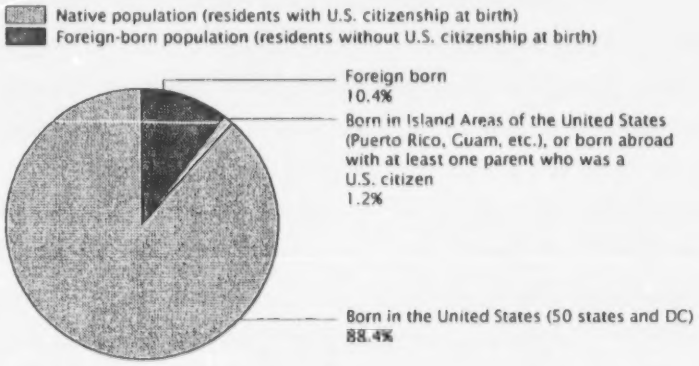
The terms **immigration** and **immigrant**, or **international migration** and **international migrant** have many and varied meanings.[3] In P23-206, the terms immigration and immigrant usually refer to administrative and statistical data from reports issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). The terms international migrant and international migration refer to the movement of all persons to and from the United States including that of the U.S. Armed Forces.[4] The Census Bureau uses the terms immigrant and immigration as well as international migrant and international migration in reference to the population components of change in population estimates methodology.[5]

Some foreign-born individuals are known to reside in the United States illegally.[6] Statistics shown in P23-206 for the foreign-born population undoubtedly include some information about these individuals. The Census Bureau does not ask questions in decennial censuses or the Current Population Survey about the immigration status of respondents with the exception of a question about **citizenship status**.

After migration to the United States, some foreign-born residents become naturalized citizens. This process usually requires a minimum of 5 years of residence

Figure A-1.
Classification of the Population of the United States by Nativity and Place of Birth: 2000

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post)


Native population (residents with U.S. citizenship at birth)
Foreign-born population (residents without U.S. citizenship at birth)
Foreign born
10.4%
Born in Island Areas of the United States (Puerto Rico, Guam, etc.), or born abroad with at least one parent who was a U.S. citizen
1.2%
Born in the United States (50 states and DC)
88.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Table 1-1.

in the United States but there are some exceptions, particularly for underage children. The Census Bureau asks questions about citizenship status in censuses and the Current Population Survey, but information provided by respondents is self reported and may not reflect the formal acquisition of citizenship. Citizenship status data used in P23-206 is self-reported.

[1]For a comprehensive discussion of demographic concepts and definitions, see U.S. Census Bureau, 1980. For a complete listing of U.S. Census Bureau decennial census reports, see U.S. Census Bureau, 1999a. For more information about terminology used by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, see Immigration and Naturalization Service, 2000, pp. 239-243, and A.3-2 to A.3-14 as well as earlier volumes listed in the *References* section of P23-206 (this report).

[2]The basic rule for where to enumerate a person in U.S. censuses is his or her usual place of residence. This is the place where the person lives or sleeps most of the time or the place the person considers to be his or her usual home. This includes citizens of foreign countries who have established regular living arrangements (such as living in a house, apartment, or dormitory) while working or studying in the United States. P23-206 uses information from the Current Population Survey conducted March 2000 and the 1990 and earlier censuses. P23-206 does not contain data collected in the 2000 decennial census.

[3]Generally, immigrant and immigration are legal terms and international migration and international migrants are demographic terms, but this is not always the case. See U.S. Census Bureau, 1980 and 1993b. For a discussion of the history of these terms through the end of the 1970s, see United States, Congress, 1978.

[4]Since definitions may differ across time, the reader is advised to refer directly to the Immigration and Naturalization Service publications cited in P23-206, Section 1, "Foreign-Born Population Trends," footnotes 2-6.

[5]See U.S. Census Bureau, 1993b, page xvi.

[6]See Section 1, "Foreign-Born Population Trends," footnote 2.

Appendix B.

Source and Accuracy of Estimates

Source of Data

Estimates in this report come from data obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS) conducted in March of 2000. The U.S. Census Bureau conducts the survey every month, although this report uses only March data for its estimates. Also, some estimates come from decennial census data for years 1850 through 1990 and from the administrative records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. These estimates are not derived from Census 2000 data. The March survey uses two sets of questions, the basic CPS and the supplements.

Basic CPS. The basic CPS collects primarily labor force data about the civilian noninstitutional population. Interviewers ask questions concerning labor force participation about each member 15 years old and over in every sample household. The basic CPS also includes questions on country of birth, citizenship, and year of entry into the United States.

The CPS sample used in this report was selected from the 1990 decennial census files with coverage in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The sample is continually updated to account for new residential construction. The United States was divided into 2,007 geographic areas. In most states, a geographic area consisted of a county or several contiguous counties. In some areas of New England and Hawaii, minor civil divisions are used instead of counties. A total of 754 geographic areas were selected for sample. About 50,000 occupied households are eligible for interview every month. Field representatives are unable to obtain interviews at about 3,200 of these units. This occurs when the occupants are not found at home after repeated calls or are unavailable for some other reason.

Since the introduction of the CPS, the Census Bureau has redesigned the CPS sample several times. These redesigns have improved the quality and accuracy of the data and have satisfied changing data needs. The most recent changes were completely implemented in July 1995.

March 2000 supplement. In addition to the basic CPS questions, field representatives asked supplementary questions in March about poverty status, money income received in the previous calender year, educational attainment, household and family characteristics, marital status, geographic mobility, the foreign-born population, health insurance, and noncash benefits.

To obtain more reliable data for the Hispanic population, the March CPS sample was increased by about 2,500 eligible housing units. These housing units were interviewed the previous November and contained at least one sample person of Hispanic origin. In addition, the sample included persons in the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post.

Estimation procedure. The survey's estimation procedure adjusts weighted sample results to agree with independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, sex, race, and Hispanic/non-Hispanic origin, and state of residence. The adjusted estimate is called the post-stratification ratio estimate. The independent estimates were calculated based on information from four primary sources:

- The 1990 Decennial Census of Population and Housing.
- An adjustment for undercoverage in the 1990 census.
- Statistics on births, deaths, immigration, and emigration.
- Statistics on the size of the Armed Forces.

The independent population estimates used for 1994 to present were based on updates to controls established by the 1990 decennial census. Before 1994, independent population estimates from the latest available decennial census data were used. For more details on the change in independent estimates, see the section entitled "Introduction of 1990 Census Population Controls" in an earlier report (Series P60, No. 188).

The estimation procedure for the March supplement included a further adjustment so husband and wife of a household received the same weight. The independent population estimates include some, but not all, undocumented immigrants.

Accuracy of the Estimates

Since the CPS estimates come from a sample, they may differ from figures from a complete census using the same questionnaires, instructions, and enumerators. A sample survey estimate has two possible types of error: sampling and nonsampling. The accuracy of an estimate depends on both types of error, but the full extent of the nonsampling error is unknown.

Consequently, one should be particularly careful when interpreting results based on a relatively

small number of cases or on small differences between estimates. The standard errors for CPS estimates primarily indicate the magnitude of sampling error. They also partially measure the effect of some nonsampling errors in responses and enumeration but do not measure systematic biases in the data. (Bias is the average over all possible samples of the differences between the sample estimates and the true value.)

Nonsampling variability. Several sources of nonsampling errors include the following:

- Inability to get information about all sample cases.
- Definitional difficulties.
- Differences in the interpretation of questions.
- Respondents' inability or unwillingness to provide correct information.
- Respondents' inability to recall information.
- Errors made in data collection such as recording and coding data.
- Errors made in processing the data.
- Errors made in estimating values for missing data.
- Failure to represent all units with the sample (undercoverage).

CPS undercoverage results from missed housing units and missed persons within sample households. Overall CPS undercoverage is estimated at 8 percent. CPS undercoverage varies with age, sex, and race. Generally, undercoverage is larger for males than for females and larger for Blacks and other races combined than for Whites. As described previously, ratio estimation to independent age-sex-race-Hispanic population controls partially corrects for bias due to undercoverage. However, biases exist in the estimates to the extent that missed persons in missed households or missed persons in interviewed households have different characteristics from those of interviewed persons in the same age-sex-race-Hispanic origin group.

A common measure of survey coverage is the coverage ratio, the estimated population before poststratification divided by the independent population control. Table A shows CPS coverage ratios for age-sex-race groups for a typical month. The CPS coverage ratios can exhibit some variability from month to month. Other Census Bureau household surveys experience similar coverage.

For additional information on nonsampling error including the possible impact on CPS nativity data when known, refer to Statistical Policy Working Paper 3, *An Error Profile: Employment as Measured by the Current Population Survey*, Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1978, Technical Paper 63, *The Current Population Survey: Design and Methodology*, U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, and Population Division Working Paper No. 22, "How Well Does the Current Population Survey Measure the Foreign-Born Population in the United States?" by Dianne Schmidley and J. Gregory Robinson.

Comparability of data. Data obtained from the CPS and other sources are not entirely comparable. This results from differences in interviewer training and experience and in differing survey processes. This is an example of nonsampling variability not reflected in the standard errors. Use caution

Table A.
CPS Coverage Ratios

Age	Non-Black		Black		All persons		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
0-14	0.929	0.964	0.850	0.838	0.916	0.943	0.929
15	0.933	0.895	0.763	0.824	0.905	0.883	0.895
16-19	0.881	0.891	0.711	0.802	0.855	0.877	0.866
20-29	0.847	0.897	0.660	0.811	0.823	0.884	0.854
30-39	0.904	0.931	0.680	0.845	0.877	0.920	0.899
40-49	0.928	0.966	0.816	0.911	0.917	0.959	0.938
50-59	0.953	0.974	0.896	0.927	0.948	0.969	0.959
60-64	0.961	0.941	0.954	0.953	0.960	0.942	0.950
65-69	0.919	0.972	0.982	0.984	0.924	0.973	0.951
70+	0.993	1.004	0.996	0.979	0.993	1.002	0.998
15+	0.914	0.945	0.767	0.874	0.898	0.927	0.918
0+	0.918	0.949	0.793	0.864	0.902	0.931	0.921

when comparing results from different sources.

A number of changes were made in data collection and estimation procedures beginning with the January 1994 CPS. The major change was the use of a new questionnaire. The questionnaire was redesigned to:

- Measure the official labor force concepts more precisely.
- Expand the amount of data available.
- Implement several definitional changes.
- Adapt to a computer-assisted interviewing environment.

The March supplemental income questions were also modified for adaptation to computer-assisted interviewing, although there were no changes in definition and concepts. Due to these and other changes, one should use caution when comparing estimates from data collected in 1994 and later years with estimates from earlier years. See Appendix C, P60-188 on "Conversion to a Computer Assisted Questionnaire" for a description of these changes and the effect they had on the data.

Caution should also be used when comparing estimates in this report (which reflects 1990 census-based population controls) with estimates from the March 1993 CPS and earlier years (which reflect 1980 census-based population controls).[1] This change in population controls had relatively little impact on summary measures such as means, medians, and percent distributions. It did have a significant impact on levels. For example, use of 1990-based population controls results in about a 1-percent increase in the civilian noninstitutional population and in the number of families and households. Thus, estimates of levels for data collected in 1994 and later years will differ from those for earlier years by more than what could be attributed to actual changes in the population. These differences could be disproportionately greater for certain subpopulation groups than for the total population.

During the period April 1994 through June 1995, the U.S. Census Bureau systematically introduced a new sample design for the CPS based on the results of the 1990 decennial census. During this phase-in period, CPS estimates were being made from two distinct sample designs: the old 1980 sample design and the new 1990 sample design. The March 1995 CPS consisted of 55 percent new (1990) sample and 45 percent old (1980) sample. The data based on the March 1996 CPS were the first estimates based entirely on households selected from the 1990 census-based sample design.

One of the effects of the introduction of the 1990 census sample design is the change in the definition of metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas. The 1990 census sample design incorporates the geographic definitions officially released in 1993[2]; the 1980 census sample design incorporates the geographic definitions released in 1983. While most CPS estimates have been unaffected by this mixed sample, geographic estimates are subject to greater error and variability. Users should exercise caution when comparing estimates across years for metropolitan and nonmetropolitan categories.

Note when using small estimates. Summary measures (such as medians and percent distributions) are shown only when the base is 100,000 or greater. Because of the large standard errors involved, summary measures would probably not reveal useful information when computed on a smaller base. However, estimated numbers are shown even though the relative standard errors of these numbers are larger than those for corresponding percentages. These smaller estimates permit combinations of the categories to suit data users' needs.

Take care in the interpretation of small differences. For instance, even a small amount of nonsampling error can cause a borderline difference to appear significant or not, thus distorting a seemingly valid hypothesis test.

Sampling variability. Sampling variability is variation that occurred by chance because a sample was surveyed rather than the entire population. Standard errors, as calculated by methods described in the section titled "standard errors and their use," are primarily measures of sampling variability, but they may include some nonsampling error.

Standard errors and their use. A number of approximations are required to derive, at a moderate cost, standard errors applicable to the estimates in this report. Instead of providing an individual standard error for each estimate, two parameters, "a" and "b," are provided to calculate standard errors for each estimate.

[1]For detailed information on the 1990 sample redesign, see the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics report, Employment and Earnings, Volume 41, Number 5, May 1994.

[2]For additional information on the new metropolitan area definitions, see Revised Statistical Definitions for Metropolitan Areas (MAs), Office of Management and Budget, Bulletin No. 93-17, June 30, 1993.

Table B provides standard error parameters for native and foreign-born persons. Multiply the parameters in Table B by the factors in Tables C and D to get region, state, and nonmetropolitan parameters. The sample estimate and its standard error enable one to construct a confidence interval. A confidence interval is a range that would include the average result of all possible samples with a known probability. For example, suppose all possible samples were surveyed under essentially the same general conditions and using the same sample design. If an estimate and its standard error were calculated from each sample, then approximately 90 percent of the intervals from 1.645 standard errors below the estimate to 1.645 standard errors above the estimate would include the average result of all possible samples.

A particular confidence interval may or may not contain the average estimate derived from all possible samples. However, one can say with specified confidence that the interval includes the average estimate calculated from all possible samples. Standard errors may also be used to perform hypothesis testing. This is a procedure for distinguishing between population parameters using sample estimates. One common type of hypothesis appearing in this report is that two population parameters are different. An example of this would be comparing the median age of natives to the median age of foreign-born persons.

Tests may be performed at various levels of significance. The significance level of a test is the probability of concluding that the characteristics are different when, in fact, they are the same. All statements of comparison in the text were tested at the 0.10 level of significance. Thus, if the absolute value of the estimated difference between characteristics was greater than or equal to 1.645 times the standard error of the difference, then the conclusion was that the characteristics were different.

The Census Bureau uses 90-percent confidence intervals and 0.10 levels of significance to determine statistical validity. Consult standard statistical textbooks for alternative criteria.

Standard errors of estimated numbers. The approximate standard error, s_x, of an estimated number shown in this report can be obtained using the formula:

$$s_x = \sqrt{ax^2 + bx} \qquad (1)$$

Here x is the size of the estimate, and a and b are the parameters in Table B associated with the particular type of characteristic. When calculating standard errors from cross-tabulations involving different characteristics, use the set of parameters for the characteristic which will give the largest standard error.

Illustration

Suppose the March 2000 CPS estimates the number of people living in the United States who were born in Central America to be 9,789,000, and a calculation of the standard error and a 90 percent confidence interval for that estimate are desired. Using Formula (1) and the appropriate parameters from Table B gives

Number, x	9,789,000
a parameter	-0.000041
b parameter	11,054
Standard error	322,922
90% conf. int.	9,258,000 to 10,320,000

The standard error is calculated as

$$s_x = \sqrt{-0.000041 \times 9{,}789{,}000^2 + 11{,}054 \times 9{,}789{,}000} = 322{,}922$$

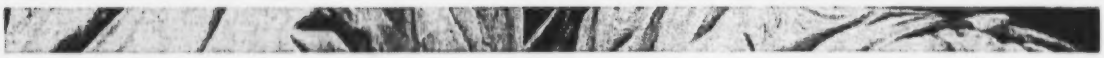
The 90-percent confidence interval is calculated as 9,789,000 ± 1.645×322,922.

A conclusion that the average estimate derived from all possible samples lies within a range computed in this way would be correct for roughly 90 percent of all possible samples.

Standard errors of estimated percentages. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed using sample data from both numerator and denominator, depends on both the size of the percentage and its base. Estimated percentages are relatively more reliable than the corresponding estimates of the numerators of the percentages, particularly if the percentages are 50 percent or more. When the numerator and denominator of the percentage are in different categories, use the parameter from Table B indicated by the numerator. The approximate standard error, $s_{x,p}$, of an estimated percentage can be obtained by using the formula

$$s_{x,p} = \sqrt{\frac{b}{x} p\,(100 - p)} \qquad (2)$$

Here x is the total number of persons, families, households, or unrelated individuals in the base of the percentage, p is the percentage ($0 \leq p \leq 100$), and b is the parameter in Table B associated with



the characteristic in the numerator of the percentage.

Illustration

Suppose we estimate the percentage of naturalized citizens age 15+ to be 97.6 percent, and the standard error and confidence interval for this percentage are desired. The total number of naturalized citizens is 10,622,000. Using Formula (2) and the appropriate parameter from Table B gives

Percentage, p	97.6
Base, x	10,622,000
b parameter	6,774
Standard error	0.4
90% conf. int.	96.9 to 98.3

The standard error is calculated as

$$s_{x,p} = \sqrt{\frac{6,774}{10,622,000} \times 97.6 \times (100 - 97.6)} = 0.4$$

The 90-percent confidence interval is calculated as 97.6 ± 1.645×0.4.

Standard error of a difference. The standard error of the difference between two sample estimates is approximately equal to

$$s_{x-y} = \sqrt{s_x^2 + s_y^2} \quad (3)$$

where s_x and s_y are the standard errors of the estimates, x and y. The estimates can be numbers, proportions, ratios, etc. This will represent the actual standard error quite accurately for the difference between estimates of the same characteristic for two different groups or for the difference between separate and uncorrelated characteristics in the same group. However, if there is a high positive (negative) correlation between the two characteristics, the formula will overestimate (underestimate) the true standard error.

Illustration

Suppose from the March 2000 CPS, 34.3 percent of the 152,836,000 natives in the United States ages 25 and older are high school graduates. Also, suppose that 23.9 percent of the 12,606,000 noncitizens in the United States ages 25 and older are high school graduates, and the standard error and a 90 percent confidence interval for the difference between the percentages of natives and noncitizens who are high school graduates are desired. Use Formulas (2) and (3) and the appropriate parameters from Table B to get

The standard error of the difference is calculated as

$$s_{x-y} = \sqrt{0.2^2 + 0.7^2} = 0.7$$

The 90-percent confidence interval around the difference is calculated as 10.4 ± 1.645×0.7. Since this interval does not include zero, we can conclude with 90-percent confidence that the percentage of natives in the United States who are high school graduates is higher than the percentage of noncitizens who are high school graduates.

Description	x	y	difference
Percentage, p	34.3	23.9	10.4
Base, x	152,836,000	12,606,000	-
b parameter	2,369	3,080	-
Standard error	0.2	0.7	0.7
90% conf. int.	34.0 to 34.6	22.7 to 25.1	9.2 to 11.6

Standard Error of a Median. The sampling variability of an estimated median depends on the form of the distribution and the size of the base. One can approximate the reliability of an estimated median by determining a confidence interval about it. (See the section titled "standard errors and their use" for a general discussion of confidence intervals.)

Estimate the 68-percent confidence limits of a median based on sample data using the following procedure.

1. Determine, using formula (2), the standard error of the estimate of 50 percent from the distribution.
2. Add to and subtract from 50 percent the standard error determined in step 1.
3. Using the distribution of the characteristic, determine upper and lower limits of the 68-percent confidence interval by calculating values corresponding to the two points established in step 2.

Use the following formula to calculate the upper and lower limits.

$$X_{pN} = \frac{pN - N_1}{N_2 - N_1}(A_2 - A_1) + A_1 \quad (4)$$

where

X_{pN} = estimated upper and lower bounds for the confidence interval ($0 \leq p \leq 1$). For purposes of calculating the confidence interval, p takes on the values determined in step 2. Note that X_{pN} estimates the median when p = 0.50.

N = for distribution of numbers: the total number of units (persons, households, etc.) for the characteristic in the distribution.

Earnings levels	Naturalized citizens 15+ (working full-time and year-round)	Cumulative total
Under $10,000 or loss	181,000	181,000
$10,000 to $19,999	1,007,000	1,188,000
$20,000 to $34,999	1,588,000	2,776,000
$35,000 to $49,999	997,000	3,773,000
$50,000 or more	1,336,000	5,109,000
Total	5,109,000	
Median income	$32,917	

= for distribution of percentages: the value 1.0.

p = the values obtained in step 2.

A_1, A_2 = the lower and upper bounds, respectively, of the interval containing X_{pN}.

N_1, N_2 = for distribution of numbers: the estimated number of units (persons, households, etc.) with values of the characteristic greater than or equal to A_1 and A_2, respectively.

= for distribution of percentages: the estimated percentage of units (persons, households, etc.) having values of the characteristic greater than or equal to A_1 and A_2, respectively.

4. Divide the difference between the two points determined in step 3 by two to obtain the standard error of the median.

Illustration

Suppose we wish to use the following distribution to calculate the standard error of the median earnings of naturalized citizens 15+ years old who work full-time and year-round.

(1) Using b = 3,190 from Table B and formula (2), the standard error of 50 percent on a base of 5,109,000 is about 1.2 percent.

(2) To obtain a 68 percent confidence interval for an estimated median, add to and subtract from 50 percent, the standard error found in step 1. This yields limits of 48.8 and 51.2 percent.

(3) The lower and upper limits for the interval in which the median falls are $20,000 and $35,000, respectively.

Then, by adding the totals in the different income ranges, the estimated number of naturalized citizens 15+ working year-round and full-time and with earnings greater than or equal to $20,000 and $35,000 are 3,921,000 and 2,333,000, respectively.

Using formula (4), the upper limit for the confidence interval of the median is about

$$\frac{0.488 \times 5{,}109{,}000 - 3{,}921{,}000}{2{,}333{,}000 - 3{,}921{,}000} \times (35{,}000 - 20{,}000) + 20{,}000 = 33{,}487$$

Similarly, the lower limit is about

$$\frac{0.512 \times 5{,}109{,}000 - 3{,}921{,}000}{2{,}333{,}000 - 3{,}921{,}000} \times (35{,}000 - 20{,}000) + 20{,}000 = 32{,}329$$

Thus, a 68-percent confidence interval for the median income is from $32,300 to $33,500.

(4) The standard error of the median is, therefore

$$\frac{33{,}500 - 32{,}300}{2} = 600$$

Standard Error of a Ratio. Certain estimates may be calculated as the ratio of two numbers. The standard error of a ratio, x/y, may be computed using

$$s_{x/y} = \frac{x}{y}\sqrt{\left(\frac{s_x}{x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{s_y}{y}\right)^2 - 2r\frac{s_x s_y}{xy}} \quad (5)$$

The standard error of the numerator, s_x, and that of the denominator, s_y, may be calculated using formulas described earlier. In formula (5), r represents the correlation between the numerator and the denominator of the estimate.

For one type of ratio, the denominator is a count of families or households and the numerator is a count of persons in those families or households with a certain characteristic. If there is at least one person with the characteristic in every family or household, use 0.7 as an estimate of r. An example of this type is the mean number of children per family with children.

For all other types of ratios, r is assumed to be zero. If r is actually positive (negative), then this procedure will provide an overestimate (underestimate) of the standard error of the ratio. Examples of this type are the mean number of children per family and the poverty rate.

Note: For estimates expressed as the ratio of x per 100 y or x per 1,000 y, multiply formula (5) by 100

Description	x	y	ratio
Estimate	119,733,000	14,200,000	8.43
a parameter	-0.000039	-0.000051	-
b parameter	5,211	6,774	-
Standard error	254,608	293,099	0.17
90% conf. int.	-	-	8.15 to 8.71

or 1,000, respectively, to obtain the standard error.

Illustration

Suppose the standard error and 90-percent confidence interval for the ratio of native males residing in the United States to foreign-born males residing in the United States are desired, when the estimated numbers of foreign born and native males are 14,200,000 and 119,733,000, respectively. Using Formulas (1) and (5) and the parameters in Table 2, the standard error of this ratio is as follows

Using formula (5) with $r = 0$, the estimate of the standard error is

$$s_{x,y} = \frac{119,733,000}{14,200,000}\sqrt{\left[\frac{254,608}{119,733,000}\right]^2 + \left[\frac{293,099}{14,200,000}\right]^2} = 0.17$$

The 90-percent confidence interval is calculated as 8.43 ± 1.645×0.17.

Computation of Standard Errors for State Estimates. Table B gives standard error parameters for characteristics at the national level. To calculate standard errors at the state level, regional level (Northeast, Midwest, South, and West), and the nonmetropolitan level, the parameters in Table B must first be multiplied by the appropriate factor from Table C and Table D.

Illustration

Suppose the standard error and 90-percent confidence interval for the total foreign born in Florida are calculated, when the estimated number is 2,351,000 people.[3]

Use Formula (1) and the appropriate parameters from Table B and Table C to get

Number, x	2,351,000
a parameter	-0.000025
b parameter	6,774
State factor (Florida)	0.97
a parameter (-0.000025 x 0.97)	-0.000024
b parameter (6,774 x 0.97)	6,571
Standard error	123,757
90% conf. int.	2,147,000 to 2,555,000

The standard error is calculated as

$$s_x = \sqrt{-0.000024 \times 2,351,000^2 + 6,571 \times 2,351,000} = 123,757$$

The 90-percent confidence interval is calculated as 2,351,000 ± 1.645×123,757.

Technical Assistance

If you require assistance or additional information, please contact Jeffrey Stratton of the Demographic Statistical Methods Division via e-mail at DSMD_S&A@cebsys.giv.

[3]This estimate of 2,351,000 for the foreign-born population of Florida comes from the 1997 March CPS.

Table B.
Standard Error Parameters for Native and Foreign-Born Characteristics: March 2000

Characteristic	Natives		Foreign born	
	a	b	a	b
Age				
Total	-0.000019	5,211	-0.000025	6,774
Under 15 years	-0.000086	5,211	-0.000112	6,774
15 years and over	-0.000024	5,211	-0.000032	6,774
15 to 24 years	-0.000136	5,211	-0.000177	6,774
25 to 34 years	-0.000139	5,211	-0.000181	6,774
35 to 44 years	-0.000117	5,211	-0.000152	6,774
45 to 64 years	-0.000087	5,211	-0.000113	6,774
65 years and over	-0.000160	5,211	-0.000208	6,774
Median age (years)	(NA)	5,211	(NA)	6,774
Sex				
Male	-0.000039	5,211	-0.000051	6,774
Female	-0.000037	5,211	-0.000048	6,774
Race and Hispanic Origin				
Some Household Members				
Total/White	-0.000019	5,211	-0.000025	6,774
Black	-0.000212	7,486	-0.000212	7,486
Asian or Pacific Islander	-0.000550	7,486	-0.000550	7,486
Hispanic origin	-0.000229	7,486	-0.000229	7,486
All Household Members				
Total/White	-0.000023	6,332	-0.000030	8,232
Black	-0.000312	11,039	-0.000312	11,039
Asian or Pacific Islander	-0.000811	11,039	-0.000811	11,039
Hispanic origin	-0.000337	11,039	-0.000337	11,039
Educational Attainment	-0.000011	2,369	-0.000015	3,080
Labor Force Status				
In the civilian labor force	-0.000018	2,985	-0.000023	3,881
Employed	-0.000018	2,985	-0.000023	3,881
Unemployment	-0.000018	2,957	-0.000023	3,844
Not in the labor force	0.000006	829	0.000008	1,078
Income in 1999				
Individual	-0.000012	2,454	-0.000016	3,190
Household	-0.000011	2,241	-0.000014	2,913
Received Public Assistance	-0.000038	10,380	-0.000049	13,494
Received AFDC	-0.000038	10,380	-0.000049	13,494
Poverty Status	-0.000038	10,380	-0.000049	13,494
Tenure	-0.000029	7,791	-0.000037	10,128
Country of Birth				
Mexico, North/Central America	(NA)	(NA)	-0.000041	11,054
Europe	(NA)	(NA)	-0.000024	6,351
Asia, Africa, Oceania	(NA)	(NA)	-0.000038	10,351
United States	-0.000021	5,556	(NA)	(NA)

NA Not applicable.

Table C.
State Factors

State	Factor	State	Factor
Alabama	1.01	Montana	0.20
Alaska	0.15	Nebraska	0.42
Arizona	0.97	Nevada	0.44
Arkansas	0.59	New Hampshire	0.38
California	1.29	New Jersey	0.82
Colorado	0.93	New Mexico	0.40
Connecticut	1.00	New York	0.89
Delaware	0.22	North Carolina	0.94
Dist. of Col.	0.16	North Dakota	0.16
Florida	0.97	Ohio	1.02
Georgia	1.40	Oklahoma	0.73
Hawaii	0.35	Oregon	0.86
Idaho	0.27	Pennsylvania	0.96
Illinois	1.00	Rhode Island	0.30
Indiana	1.38	South Carolina	1.01
Iowa	0.71	South Dakota	0.17
Kansas	0.65	Tennessee	1.34
Kentucky	0.92	Texas	1.21
Louisiana	0.95	Utah	0.43
Maine	0.37	Vermont	0.18
Maryland	1.38	Virginia	1.48
Massachusetts	0.81	Washington	1.47
Michigan	0.93	West Virginia	0.39
Minnesota	1.11	Wisconsin	1.23
Mississippi	0.64	Wyoming	0.12
Missouri	1.37		

Table D.
Region and Nonmetropolitan Factors

Characteristic	Factor
Region	
Northeast	0.85
Midwest	1.03
South	1.08
West	1.09
Nonmetropolitan characteristics	1.50

Appendix C.

Comparison of Population Universes

The population universes in the March Current Population Survey (CPS) and in the decennial census of population are not totally comparable. While the universe for the census of population is the entire resident population of the United States, the universe for the March CPS is the civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post.[1] The coverage of the noninstitutional group quarters population in the CPS is limited primarily to individuals living in college dormitories who generally are reported with their parental households and not in group quarters; however, relatively few foreign-born students would be reported in this way. As a result, the foreign-born population in the 1990 census corresponding to the CPS universe is essentially the foreign-born population of 19.3 million living in households, which is about 0.5 million less than the total foreign-born population of 19.8 million in the 1990 census.

[1]In addition, data from the 1990 census and the March 2000 CPS are not totally comparable because the CPS data are inflated to independent population controls reflecting an adjustment for undercoverage in the 1990 census. See Appendix B, Source and Accuracy of the Estimates, and U.S. Census Bureau, 2001.

Foreign-Born Population in the CPS and in the Census of Population

(Numbers in thousands)

	Total population	Foreign-born population	
		Number	Percent of total
March 2000 CPS			
Civilian noninstitutional population plus Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post	274,087	28,379	10.4
1990 Census of Population			
Total population	248,710	19,767	7.9
In households	242,050	19,279	8.0
In group quarters	6,660	489	7.3
In institutions	3,312	242	7.3
In other group quarters	3,348	247	7.4
College dormitories	1,971	123	6.2
Military quarters	595	24	4.1
Other	783	100	12.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, special tabulations from the 1990 census and the March 2000 Current Population Survey.

Appendix D.

Nativity Questions on the Current Population Survey

(The following questions are asked about every member of every household in the CPS sample. Information is also collected for persons joining the household at a later date.)

The next few questions ask about each household member's country of birth.

NATVTY **In what country (were/was) ..... born? (Enter Code) _____**

MNTVTY **In what country was .....'s mother born? _____**

FNTVTY **In what country was .....'s father born? _____**

(screens with country codes not shown)

AUTOMATED SKIP PATTERN:

If NATVTY = US (1) --> END sequence for this person
If NATVTY = PR* (2) or OA* (3) --> go to INUSYR
If MNTVTY and FNTVTY = US (1), PR* (2) or OA* (3) --> go to INUSYR
ALL OTHERS --> go to CITIZN

CITIZN **(Are/Is) . . . a CITIZEN of the United States?**

(1) YES --> go to CITTYPA
(2) NO --> go to INUSYR
(3) DK* --> go to INUSYR
(4) R* --> go to INUSYR

CITTYPA **(Were/Was) . . . born a citizen of the United States?**

(1) Yes --> go to INUSYR
(2) No --> go to CITTYPB
(3) DK* --> go to CITTYPB
(4) R* --> go to INUSYR

CITTYPB **Did . . . become a citizen of the United States through naturalization?**

(1) Yes --> go to INUSYR
(2) No --> go to INUSYR
(3) DK* --> go to INUSYR
(4) R* --> go to INUSYR

INUSYR **When did . . . come to live in the United States?**

(1) YEAR 19____
(2) DK*
(3) R*

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* PR= Puerto Rico; OA= Outlying Area; DK= Don't Know; R= Refused.

Appendix E.

Related Reports and Information

From the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS)

1998 Statistical Yearbook of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (2000) is the most recent annual yearbook providing comprehensive data on immigration, naturalization, and other topics for fiscal year 1998. The publication includes historical data on international migration. For additional information, including data from the report cited above, see the INS Internet site: *http://www.ins.usdoj.gov.*

From the U.S. Census Bureau

Current Population Reports

Profile of the Foreign-Born Population in the United States: 2000, PPL-145 (2001) is a comprehensive set of detailed statistical tables and is the source of all the data from the March 2000 Current Population Survey (CPS) included in *Profile of the Foreign-Born Population in the United States: 2000*, P23-206 (this report).

In 1999, the U.S. Census Bureau released a comprehensive report *Profile of the Foreign-Born Population in the United States: 1997*, P23-195. This earlier report used data from the March 1997 CPS and included a set of detailed statistical tables, PPL-115.

Previous sets of CPS detailed tables on the foreign-born population, which are less comprehensive than either PPL-145 or PPL-115, include: *The Foreign-Born Population in the United States: March 2000*, PPL-135 (2001), and *The Foreign-Born Population in the United States: March 1999*, PPL-123 (2000). Similar detailed tables are also available for March 1995, 1996, 1997, and 1998.

The data on the foreign-born population in these reports noted above are based on national survey data for the 1995 to 2000 period. For a detailed evaluation of these data, see *How Well Does the Current Population Survey Measure the Foreign-Born Population in the United States?*, Population Division Working Paper No. 22 (1998).

Recent population estimates

The Census Bureau produces annual estimates of population change and of the components of population change (births, deaths, net international migration, and net domestic migration) since the 1990 census for the United States, regions and divisions of the United States, states, and counties. These estimates are available only on the Census Bureau's Internet site: *http://www.census.gov.*

On this Internet site, go to **People**, select **Estimates**, and then select **State** (which includes data for the United States, regions, and divisions) or **County**. Estimates of the components of population change are currently available for April 1, 1990, to July 1, 1999, and for July 1, 1998, to July 1, 1999. In 1999, the Census Bureau introduced annual population estimates by nativity (native and foreign-born resident populations) at the national level. These estimates are currently available for years 1990 to 1999.

Decennial census data

Historical Census Statistics on the Foreign-Born Population of the United States: 1850 to 1990, Population Division Working Paper No. 29 (1999), is the source of all the decennial census data included in *Profile of the Foreign-Born Population in the United States: 2000*, P23-206 (this report).

The Foreign-Born Population in the United States, 1990 Census of Population, 1990 CP-3-1 (1993) presents data on the demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics of the foreign-born population of the United States as a whole by region and country of birth of the foreign-born population. These data are shown down to the state level in *Subject Summary Tape File (SSTF) 1, The Foreign-Born Population in the United States*, which is available also on CD-ROM.

Social and Economic Characteristics, 1990 Census of Population, 1990 CP-2 (1993) presents data on the citizenship status, year of entry, and region and country of birth of the foreign-born population. 1990 CP-2-1 includes data for the United States, regions and divisions of the United States, and states. 1990 CP-2-2 through 1990 CP-2-52 (one report for each state and for the District of Columbia) include data for states, counties, and places of 10,000 or more population (with less detail for places of 2,500 to 9,999 population). 1990 CP-2-1B and CP-2-1C include data for metropolitan areas and urbanized areas, respectively.

Census 2000 sample data (including statistics on the foreign born) are scheduled to be released by the Census Bureau as early as March 2002. Data products include: *Demographic Profile* (providing demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics presented in three separate tables); *Congressional District Demographic Profile* (providing

demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics presented in three separate tables for Congressional Districts only); *Summary File 3 (SF3)* (population counts for ancestry groups and selected population and housing characteristics) (planned release date: July-September 2002); other forthcoming decennial products scheduled for release in 2002 and 2003 include: *Summary File 4 (SF4)*; *Quick Tables*; *Geographic Comparison Tables*; *Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) Files*; *Advanced Query Function*; *Census 2000: Summary Social, Economic, and Housing Characteristics*; *Congressional District Data Summary File*. The Census 2000 Web site: *http://www.census.gov/dmd/www/products.html* highlights these and other Census 2000 data products.

On the Internet

A wide range of information from the Census Bureau, including data on some of the topics included in this report, is available on the Census Bureau's Internet site: *http://www.census.gov*.

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